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READY FOR LIFE



AHS's Class of 2015 eager to pursue dreams

By Mike Lydick
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The Class of 2015 marched into Symphony Hall in Springfield last Sunday united and prepared to take on life after high school.

While the more than two-hour graduation ceremony on June 7 featured much pomp and circumstance, there was also much emotion and a number of firsts for

this graduating class. For many seniors, and their families, there was the excitement and relief that they had made it through high school and would soon embark on new journeys on the road of life.

The ceremonies, speeches and awarding of diplomas celebrated and acknowledged the accomplishments of the Class of 2015. The occasion marked a very special day for the 308 AHS seniors and the nearly 3,000 friends and family who watched them march across the stage to pick up their diplomas.

It was also an opportunity to honor the memory of two of classmates who were not present at graduation but joined in spirit. On stage were two empty chairs with flowers to honor Lexi Jagadowski, who passed away a few years ago while attending Roberta Doering School, and Amanda Crosetiere, who passed away while attending AHS. Their parents and family members were present at what would have been their daughters' graduations.

GRAD | page 11

TOP LEFT: From left, Erbina Nuhui, Sasha Papova and Britney Busco show off their high school diplomas following graduation on June 7. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

BOTTOM LEFT: Soon-to-be graduates of the Agawam High School Class of 2015 listen to speeches during graduation ceremonies at Symphony Hall in Springfield.

INSET: Cameron Rivest, left, puts a class pin on Brodie Keene's graduation gown.

NORTH WESTFIELD STREET

Anger around drive-through

Neighbors say noise, traffic will hurt Feeding Hills home values

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Two North Westfield Street residents left Monday night's Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing angry with the proposed Dunkin' Donuts and Holyoke Credit Union drive-through windows in their neighborhood, and the way that town boards have responded to their traffic and

noise concerns.

Michael Murphy and Barbara Murphy, who are not related, are both nearby abutters of 38 N. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills, where developer Ralph DePalma is proposing to build three commercial properties on what is currently a vacant lot. DePalma confirmed on Monday that the drive-through restaurant shown on site plans is potentially a

Dunkin' Donuts location, and the credit union with a drive-through window will be a Holyoke Credit Union branch. The third structure will be a medical office building.

The two residents told the ZBA they are unhappy with the site visits and the traffic study conducted on the property.

The traffic study was paid for by DePalma and accepted by

DRIVE | page 6

ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL

RPS pupils make career connections

By Mike Lydick
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Seven-year-old Darwood Atanane found it "extremely awesome" to see all the gear Agawam police officers carry in their cruisers and to learn why they have the equipment.

He was one of 18 students in teacher Rebecca Bergeron's first grade class at Robinson Park

School who listened, watched, and learned as Agawam Police Officer Brian Machos spoke to Darwood's class as part of the school's annual Career Week. Machos, whose daughter Samantha is a student in Bergeron's class, was one of more than 50 guests who visited the school to talk about their professions during the week of June 1.

CAREER | page 17

BASEBALL

AHS's Curran drafted by Orioles

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The call has been made, and Agawam High School graduate Seamus Curran hopes to answer it.

In the eighth round of the Major League Baseball's First-Year Player Draft, the Baltimore Orioles selected Curran, a first baseman who played for the past four

years at Agawam High School.

Curran was the 253rd pick overall.

He graduated from Agawam High School last Sunday afternoon and said he is hoping to sign with the Orioles in the next two weeks based on negotiations he had with the team prior to being drafted.

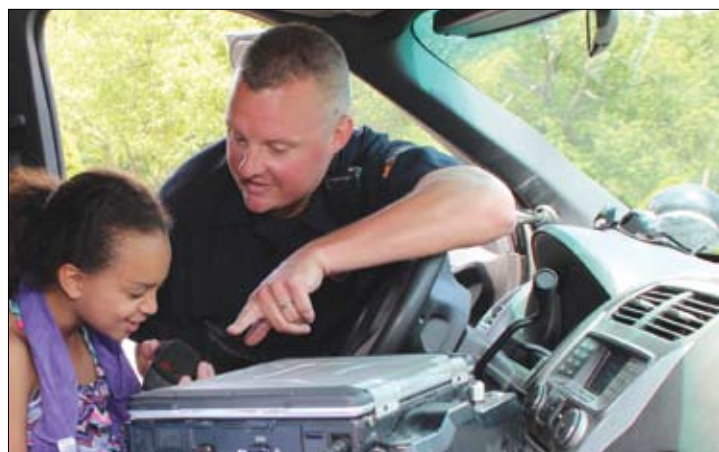
"The Orioles called me just before the seventh round of the

draft," said Curran. "Originally, I turned down their offer, but they went up and I agreed."

Curran's level of risk is minimal. He said part of the preliminary agreement he has with the Orioles is that the team will pay for four years of school, starting two years after he retires from baseball.

Curran was previously com-

DRAFT | page 6



Robinson Park School first grader Trinity Thomas speaks into a microphone of a police car with Agawam Police Officer Brian Machos. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



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'Peanuts' at Red Door



Linus (Arol Hill) shares a seat with his Peanuts friends Olivia Checca, Rachel Seaver and Erin Curd in Kit and Kaboodle's "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (Revised)" at the Red Door Theatre. The family fun musical by Clark M. Gesner is based on the comic strip "Peanuts" by Charles M. Schulz and will run June 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., and June 21 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$9 and \$11 and may be reserved by calling 413-789-2026. The Red Door Theatre is located at 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. For more information, visit reddoortheatre.com. SUBMITTED PHOTO

'80s band plays Turnverein

The 1980s tribute band Orange Crush will play an 8 p.m. show next Friday, June 19, at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

The cover charge is \$5. Members and guests are welcome. For more information, call the club at 413-786-0924.

Firehouse Museum open June 28

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum will be open Sunday, June 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. Due to last year's overwhelming response from the public, the museum will once again feature the exhibit "Riverside Park — A Century as the Playground of the Connecticut Valley." The museum is located at 35 Elm St.

For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com.

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Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to aan@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.



Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Dawn Kunasek was Dan Fruwirth.

Housing Committee to seek feasibility study

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Bringing more affordable housing to Agawam might not be easy.

Limited public transportation in town is a significant barrier to increasing the amount of subsidized, below-market-rate housing in town, Peter Gagliardi of HAP Housing told the Agawam Ad-Hoc Housing Committee on Monday.

"There is only one bus that comes through Feeding Hills," said Gagliardi.

He said many low-to-moderate income families lack their own transportation and rely on public transit to get to work.

"It can be tough to live in Agawam without a car," agreed Corrine Wingard, vice chairman of the committee.

The Housing Committee is nearing the completion of a request for proposals to conduct a feasibility study. Wingard says the study will be used to help develop a housing production plan, a blueprint the town could follow to establish more affordable housing in the community. Public input would be taken on the plan before it is implemented.

The state mandates that affordable housing should account for 10 percent of

the housing units in every town. Agawam currently has about 3 percent affordable housing. Towns that fail to meet the 10 percent target are vulnerable to Chapter 40B projects, in which developers can bypass local zoning regulations.

In the next year, 51 new affordable housing units will open up for veterans when the Soldier On project is complete. Gagliardi said he was pleased to see that when he researching Agawam's affordable housing. But Agawam could be losing some affordable housing in the future. Wingard says the Pheasant Hills low-income apartment complex, a property that accepts government Section 8 vouchers, may no longer have controlled rents.

"Their deal with the government is expiring in 2019 and the owner may opt to charge whatever he or she wants for rent," said Wingard.

The changes make the feasibility study even more important to the process, Housing Committee member Violet Baldwin says.

Wingard also said senior housing is a huge need for Agawam. Gagliardi said most government programs that help with senior housing have been drying up due to lack of funds.

Wingard said the Housing Committee is trying to help current residents of Agawam.

"We have a lot of families who live in town who are still trying to find ways to stay in their own homes," said Wingard. "They are on fixed incomes and having trouble affording where they are now."

There are currently 242 units of public housing in Agawam, Wingard said.

The needs of the community have been the subject of many discussions with the City Council, the Community Preservation Committee and the Housing Committee.

Gagliardi's organization, HAP, is a non-profit that helps facilitate affordable housing. The organization also educates home buyers and provides financial assistance, when possible. HAP also provides foreclosure counseling when necessary.

HAP has been involved in a number of housing projects with varying purposes throughout the region. They have completed senior housing in Ludlow, low-to-moderate incoming housing in Amherst, Springfield, and Holyoke, housing rehabilitation and housing projects to help the homeless throughout the region.

"One of our big goals is to help lower the homeless population," said Gagliardi.

2 new challengers for Council

The mayor, the entire School Committee and most city councilors have taken out nomination papers for re-election in November. Two additional challengers have shown interest in the council in the past two weeks, but Mayor Richard Cohen is still unopposed.

Nomination papers are available from the town clerk until mid-August. The election is Nov. 3; if necessary, the town will hold a preliminary election on Oct. 6.

The newcomers to council race are Michele Calvanese and David Morin. They join Robert Alves, Samuel DiSanti Jr. and Robert Magovern, who had already taken out papers in May.

As of Monday afternoon, the only two incumbent councilors who had not yet taken out papers were Gina Letellier and Council President Christopher Johnson.

For the School Committee, no additional challengers took out papers in the last week of May or first week of June, but longtime school board member Roberta Doering did take out papers. Brian Burbank remained the only challenger to express interest in the school board.

Candidates must return their nomination papers signed by at least 100 registered voters by Aug. 18 at 5 p.m., in order to appear on the ballot. As of Monday, the only two candidates to have returned papers were incumbent Councilor George Bitzas and incumbent School Committee member Anthony Bonavita.

The terms for mayor, city councilor and School Committee are all two years. Nomination papers are available at the clerk's office at Town Hall, 36 Main St., Agawam.

Free seminar for area seniors June 15

A free seminar titled "Budgeting and Saving Money for Senior Citizens" will be offered Monday, June 15, at the Agawam Senior Center. This 45-minute workshop will begin at 1 p.m. and will focus on cutting cable TV and phone bills; reducing grocery spending without coupons; tips on cutting insurance costs; how to reduce real estate taxes; slashing the costs of owning a car;

reducing banking costs; cutting household maintenance costs; secrets of turning clutter into cash; learning about senior citizen benefits; and more.

Walk-ins are welcome at the Senior Center at 954 Main St., or registration is available by calling Raymond Rose at 413-530-2186 or emailing RaymondRose@aol.com.

Hair to help



On June 6, Julianna Anziano donated 12 inches of her hair to Wigs for Kids, which provides hair replacement systems and support for children who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy, radiation therapy, alopecia, trichotillomania, burns and other medical issues at no cost. Tres Chic Salon & Day Spa at 339 Walnut Street Ext. in Agawam will blunt-cut 12 inches or longer hair at no charge for anyone that donates it to Wigs for Kids. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Education is not a destination

High school seniors heard a lot of wise words and enduring advice last weekend, from classmates and school administrators at the Symphony Hall ceremony, from parents and grandparents on the way home, from friends and neighbors at graduation parties. Even though most of them have already picked a college or a career track, they still face some weighty decisions as they look forward to life outside the old family home, and making sense of all that advice can be tough.

If you're looking to focus on just one quote from Sunday's commencement, you could do a lot worse than to listen to Class President Jeff Leclerc:

"Happiness is not something you have," he said. "Happiness is not a destination. Happiness is more like hunger. It's not tangible, nor is it permanent. ... So eat up when your plate is full, and when it is empty, don't let that tear you down, but use it as motivation to work hard. And in the time when your plate is full, always be willing to give a little bit to someone else."

That's an emotionally profound statement. If we could all take that advice to heart — from the graduating seniors all the way up to the senior citizens — our world would be a much more serene, more content, happier place.

And Leclerc's advice doesn't apply only to happiness. Success isn't a destination, either. The truly successful people, in business, in academia, or in any other endeavor of life, are always striving for something. Whether it's dot-com entrepreneurs using their millions to develop the next big technology, or former presidents lending their talents for diplomacy and charity, or Nobel laureates heading back to laboratory to pursue another breakthrough, success, too, is a hunger, an intangible, a constant source of motivation — not some accolade to be achieved once and then never pursued again. The truly successful people don't define their success as winning; they define it through effort and hard work.

Health isn't a destination. Crash dieting and working out for that "swimsuit body" may pay off for one season, but true health is a lifelong struggle to make healthy lifestyle choices — the foods we eat, the activities we do on an ongoing, weekly basis, the destructive behaviors we avoid and the stress we give up.

Perhaps most importantly — and contrary to the entire mythology of Graduation Day — education, too, isn't a destination.

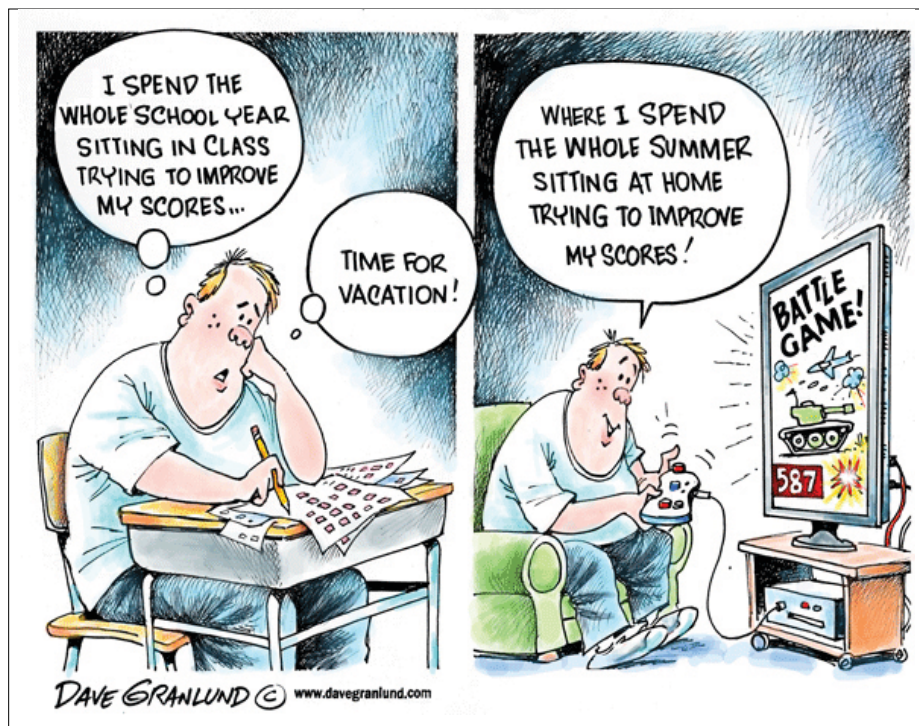
Leclerc and his classmates are celebrating the end of their primary and secondary schooling, and they've gained a nicely framed piece of paper to show for it. Walking across the stage at Symphony Hall — or walking across a similar stage in a university hall or stadium, two or four or seven years from now — feels like an accomplishment. It feels like joining some group, entering some club: I'm an adult now, a graduate, and I always will be.

But it isn't — or at least, it shouldn't be — a celebration of the end of education.

Education isn't about sitting through X credit-hours of class, turning in Y number of essays and lab reports, earning a score of Z or above on MCAS. It's not about ticking off items on a checklist and hanging a diploma on the wall. Education, like happiness, health and success, is a lifelong process, a journey in which the rewards are found along the road, not at the destination.

Education is about personal development, about how knowledge changes and builds the mind and personality of the student. To say education is over is to say that we're too old to learn — too old to change, too old to grow. If this week's graduates are looking for one more piece of advice this week, they could do a lot worse than this one: No matter how much older you get, you'll never be too old to grow, too old to change, too old to learn.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.



Letters to the Editor

Public invited to Robinson State Park Day

We hope you are enjoying these beautiful spring days. It's time to invite everyone to the annual Robinson State Park Day, sponsored by the Friends of Robinson State Park and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

On Saturday, June 20, we have planned family friendly activities and hope you will join us, invite your family and friends and once again celebrate and appreciate this beautiful state park. Most activities or walks take place at, or organize at the Trestle Pavilion, unless otherwise noted. More details and times will follow as the date gets closer, but we wanted you to save the date and share in these activities:

8 a.m.: Start the day with a bird identification walk led by John Hutchison of the Allen Bird Club. Bring binoculars if you can. John is ready to introduce new as well as experienced "birders" to the sights and sounds of the many birds that make Robinson State Park their home.

9:30 a.m.: Meet Dave Conley, experienced AMC hike leader, at the Trestle Pavilion for a five-mile loop hike in the Western half of the park. Dave will stop to discuss landmarks and natural features. The hike rating is B3BC (moderate pace, a mixture of average and strenuous terrain). Bring lunch, snacks and liquids. For questions, you may reach Dave at 413-786-005.

10 a.m. to noon: Sharon Vasicek, elementary school art teacher, will guide a "drawing nature patterns" activity known as Zentangle, appropriate for adults and children. Supplies will be provided.

Ongoing: Gini Traub, regional environmental education coordinator for DCR, will be with us to lead a "noticing nature" walk through a field, forest and past the pond to several environments and habitats for plants and animals, appropriate for families. Gini is also willing to lead a walk to the historic area where the CCC had a camp and/or make a presentation on CCC history, depending on interest.

And a special feature this year, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the parking lot of the Trestle Pavilion, we will have the "Tree Bus." You can read all about it at www.scatteredseeds.info/index.html. This traveling bus is filled with all kinds of hands-on opportunities to learn about trees: how they grow, dating a tree, petrified wood and much more. It's a clever and fascinating way to learn about trees, and Robinson State Park is famous for its tremendous diversity of trees — over

52 species.

The annual Westfield River Watershed Canoe Cruise will also take place on the 20th, starting in downtown Westfield about noon, and ending their cruise in Robinson State Park about 3 p.m. It's always fun to watch the stream of kayaks and canoes coming down the Westfield River, which forms the northern boundary of the park.

Ongoing: Lifeguards will be on duty at the swimming pond, and we expect the pond will be open for swimming and exploring.

Friends group members are available with photo displays, maps and a general willingness to answer questions and help visitors learn more about the park.

We are finalizing details, times and possible other events. We will update this information. For now we just want to be sure you all know that the Annual Robinson State Park Day will be taking place, this year on Saturday, June 20. Please plan to be with us, and please share this information with anyone you know who might like to help us celebrate Robinson State Park.

The public is invited to any and all of these activities. Times are approximate and flexible. Bring your own food and water. Entry fee is \$8 per car with Massachusetts registration. Be prepared with sunscreen and insect repellent. Join in on the fun and celebrate Robinson State Park. Severe weather cancels event. Hope to see you! For updates, questions or to be on our email list, leave a message at robinsonfriends@comcast.net.

The Friends of Robinson State Park

Thanks to the AAN for publishing trips

On behalf of the Agawam Lioness Club, I would like to thank you for publishing the announcements of our casino trips. The success of our fundraiser depends on our customers being notified of our approaching trips and you have helped us to succeed with this immensely.

Pat Lalancette
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YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

The '65s are coming home

Many of you might head east on School Street to get to our new park. About halfway down on the right you will pass by number 216, which is being remodeled by a new owner. Back in 1965, that was the home of Charlie Guyotte, a senior at AHS. Charlie was nicknamed "The Road Runner" by many of his classmates who used to be amused by his speed in the hallways as he went from class to class. They voted Charlie Mr. IQ, Class Idealist and Class Citizen. Back in 2005, Charlie came to his 40th reunion all the way from Japan, where he was working as a college professor. Hopefully, Charlie will be coming home again in October for the '65s' 50th reunion. It's going to be at Crestview Country Club where the '65s will play golf on Saturday and have a banquet on Sunday. On Friday, the '65s will be touring the high school as many previous 50-year reunions have done.

If you saw the display cases by the '63s in May at our library, you may have noticed a plywood board with over a dozen different knots. The Boy Scout knot project was made back in the early '60s by Robert Swanson, president of the Class of 1965, who resided at 254 North St. Voted Most Likely to Succeed, he may have done that, according to his uncle, Eddie Neilson '41. Eddie tells us that Robert is a banker in New York and owns a mansion on the Hudson River.

William Henry, the '65s' vice president, was voted Best All Around Senior by his classmates. He participated in the class plays and operettas in every one of his four years at AHS.

The '65s voted their class secretary Priscilla Colburn the Most Talented. Their class treasurer, Ann Dezielle, must have had a busy senior year collecting money when she wasn't working at the library or for the Mirror. Ann grew up on Parker Street, a fairly new street back then, that sent many Brownies up to the Cooper Street hill.

The May library display cases had a great picture of Harry Leonardi, Cliff Kibbe and Turk Bruno, the three football coaches. They led the team to the championship of the Western Mass. AA Conference, compiling a 7-0 league record in the

fall of 1964. Seniors on the team were Ron Penna, Bill Turgeon, Jim Silvestrini, Len Patnode, Wayne Miller, Russ Weber, Bill Clouse, Joe Conte, Bill Desmond, Mike Natale, Ed Nacewicz and a giant named Paul Gazillo. Can you imagine being a lineman for another team and having Paul Gazillo or Ron Young coming across to flatten you? Paul went on to play the line at Syracuse and Ron Young was named All American by Scholastic Magazine in 1965. Ron's certificate is still in the display cases outside the Clifford Kibbe Gym. He was

big, fast and powerful and sought after by the New York Jets. Back in '64 and '65, Coach Leonardi would at times holler to an opponent's lineman that the next play was coming right at him and what was he going to do about it. Sounds like a good time for the lineman to go to the men's room.

The '64-65 basketball team was only 7-13, but it was a young team that did much better (14-7) the next year. The hockey team, led by captain Mike Natale, started slowly but finished with a 10-7-1 record. Russ Ramah won the award for most outstanding senior. As usual for yearbooks, there are no results for the baseball and track teams for the spring of the '65s' senior year. The '66 Sachem had the '65 baseball team at 6-9 and the track team at 5-4.

The Broadway musical "Do Re Mi" was performed in March of 1965. The leads were seniors Bob Guidetti and Linda Barufaldi. Another key role, Tilda Mullen, was performed by Elizabeth Major, who must have had a marvelous voice, as she had been selected for Western Mass. District Chorus for all four of her years of high school.

Reunion committee members (maiden names) Lori Kistner, Linda Parzych, Ron Provost, Debbie Leclerc, Laurene Kittler, Nick DePalma, Catherine Gogulski and Bob Guidetti will be publishing ticket information here in the Advertiser News.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



Walt Willard



Pictured are Bob Guidetti, left, and Linda Barufaldi, who were the leads in the musical "Do Re Mi" in March of 1965 at AHS.



TVAA to hold annual meeting, elections

The Tobacco Valley Artists Association will hold its annual meeting and elections on Wednesday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

Following the business meeting, TVAA will welcome internationally recognized artist Sean Farrell, who will critique artwork created by TVAA members.

Farrell is well known for his luminous and vivid oil paintings with a great sensitivity to the beauty of light. A highly collected artist throughout the country and in parts of Europe, he is represented by several galleries in the United States.

As a child, Farrell spent many hours with a sketchpad. He decided to forgo art school

and instead travel to Europe to study the works of the old masters. Having traveled extensively throughout Italy and also the Netherlands, his paintings reveal his affection for the 17th century Italian and Dutch masters, but remain truly unique. Distinctive for their elegant and graceful compositions, his paintings capture the simple essence of a subject with rich jewel like color and an elevated sensitivity to light.

TVAA is comprised of 170 member artists throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts. Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month and the public is welcome.

COUNCIL AGENDA

City Council meeting agenda

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Monday, June 15
7 p.m.

- A. Roll call
- B. Moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Citizen's speak time
- D. Minutes
- 1. Regular council meeting – June 1, 2015
- E. Declaration from council president
- F. Presentation of Petitions and Resolutions
 - 1. TR-2015-30- A Resolution requesting the installation of "No Parking" signs along School Street, Corey Street and Alhambra Circle South in designated spots (Referred to Community Relations Committee) (Councillor Bitzas)
 - 2. TR-2015-31- A Resolution appropriating seventy thousand seven hundred and twelve dollars (\$70,712.00) from Free Cash for the purchase of a rough mower for the Agawam Municipal Golf Course (Referred to Finance Committee) (Mayor)
- G. Report of council committees
- H. Elections
- I. Public hearings
 - 1. TR-2015-26 (PH-2015-3)- A Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Operating Budget for the town of Agawam (Tabled 6/1/15) (Mayor)

- J. Old business
 - 1. TOR-2015-6- An Ordinance to manage and control blighted properties facing foreclosure or otherwise (Legislative Committee) (2 of 2 readings) (Referred to Legislative Committee)
 - 2. TO-2015-23- A budgetary transfer of \$100,000.00 from Regular Permanent Salary (#12101-51010) to Police Station Feasibility Study (#16610-58937) (Referred to Finance Committee) (Mayor)
 - 3. TO-2015-24- A budgetary transfer of \$30,000.00 from Court Time (#12101-51080) to Police Station Feasibility Study (#16610-58937) (Referred to Finance Committee) (Mayor)
 - 4. TO-2015-25- An Order granting or renewing a Junk Dealer's Permit to John's Trucking of Agawam, Inc., 415 Silver St., Agawam, MA 01001 (Referred to Administrative Committee) (Clerk)
 - 5. TO-2015-26- A budgetary transfer of \$310.00 from Council Office Supplies (#11113-52230) and \$281.00 from Council Printing & Copying (#11112-52280) to Council Equipment, Repair & Maintenance (#11112-52030) (Council)
- K. New business: Unavailable at press time.
- L. Any other matter that may legally come before the city council.

Adjournment

READLocal to kick off adult summer reading

The Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., will kick off the adult summer reading program with a group book-signing Monday, June 22, at 6:30 p.m. READLocal will offer attendees the opportunity to meet and greet 11 local authors, enjoy refreshments provided by Partners Catering and sign up for upcoming summer events.

The authors scheduled for the event include Michael Dobbs, Liz Delton, Michael Fisher, Angela Grout, Matt Herring, Jacqueline Lynch, Bill Moore, Isabel Mar-

cheselli, Sandi Michon, Lyric Taylor and Patricia Williford. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

The event is sponsored by one or more of the following the Agawam Center Library Association, the Agawam and Massachusetts cultural councils, the Boston Bruins, the Massachusetts Library System and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Collaborate Summer Library Program. No registration is necessary.

Crafters sought for upcoming fair

Crafters are wanted for the Agawam Congregational Church juried arts and crafts fair to be held Saturday, Oct. 17. The event will also include raffles, food, book sale, country store and pies.

For an application form, email bsanf437@hotmail.com, call 413-786-7111 before noon Mondays through Fridays, call 413-789-4198 and leave a message, or visit www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com.

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Community Grange annual supper Wednesday

Celebrating its 90th anniversary, Community Grange 382 of Feeding Hills will hold its 36th annual Strawberry Supper on Wednesday, June 17. The supper will be held at the Grange Hall, 47 N. West St., Feeding Hills, with continuous servings from 4 to 7 p.m.

Served family-style, the menu will consist of ham, turkey, homemade potato salad

and cole slaw, baked beans, rolls, pickles, strawberry shortcake with whipped cream and a choice of beverages.

Donation is \$11 for adults and \$5.50 for children under 12.

Reservations are suggested and may be made by calling Pauline at 413-789-2061. The public is invited to attend.



Two drive-through windows — for Dunkin’ Donuts and Holyoke Credit Union — are being proposed for 38 N. Westfield St., currently a vacant lot adjacent to the Pride gas station in Feeding Hills Center. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

DRIVE ■ from page 1

Agawam Police Safety Officer Steve Grasso and the town Engineering Department.

Michael Murphy said DePalma paid for the study and he does not believe it is independent. He and Barbara Murphy both want an independent traffic study conducted, and want the new study to cover a longer period of time.

Both residents also criticized a recent site visit made by members of the ZBA, which included observations of traffic as well as informal noise tests by the ZBA members.

ZBA member Gary Suffriti said he was pleasantly surprised and believed the traffic was not a major issue and said he was satisfied with the noise testing. Noise testing was requested to determine how far the sound of a potential drive-through intercom would travel.

The site visit was made on Monday, June 1, between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., believed to be a very high-volume traffic time for the Feeding Hills Center area.

“You just caught it on a good day,” said Barbara Murphy. “We live this every day. We can hear the Dunkin’ Donuts and the traffic backs up.”

Dunkin’ Donuts currently has a drive-through window on the adjacent property, the Pride gas station at North Westfield and Springfield streets.

ZBA Chairman Doreen Prouty said the new drive-through intercom kiosk may have to be moved farther back to the rear of the property and surrounded by shrub-

bery or other barriers as a condition for approval.

That wasn’t enough for Barbara Murphy or Michael Murphy. Both complained noise from the drive-thoguh would still be noticeable and would decrease home values. Barbara Murphy said the ZBA is not meeting its criteria to grant a special permit.

“I do not think a Dunkin’ Donuts fits in with the character of the neighborhood,” said Barbara Murphy. “Especially with the historic homes nearby.”

Both residents requested Prouty give them a guarantee their property values would not drop. Prouty said no. She also said she has not recalled a time where a ZBA decision has resulted in an abutting property’s value.

DePalma has received an approval and order of conditions from the Conservation Commission and site plan approval from the Planning Board. He is still waiting for an approval-not-required endorsement for a part of the plans. Prouty continued the ZBA public hearing to June 22 at 6:30 p.m. and said the board could vote on the special permit when the ANR is approved.

DePalma is scheduled to be in front of the Planning Board for the ANR on June 18.

The town Police and Engineering departments have endorsed the proposal. DePalma needs ZBA approval for the proposal because all drive-through windows require special permits from that board.

Featured speaker



Maryann Paleologopoulos, licensed social worker, was the featured speaker at a recent GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club meeting about mental health issues that cancer patients experience. Paleologopoulos has a private practice in Agawam. At left is club member Janine Iacolo. SUBMITTED PHOTO

AHS retirement party

An Agawam High School Retirement Party will be held Tuesday, June 16, at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills. Social hour will begin at 3 p.m., followed by dinner at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person and may be purchased by calling the high school at 413-821-0532 or stopping by the office at 760 Cooper St.

‘The Voice’ contestant to perform free concert

Former “The Voice” contestant Noah Lis will perform at Heritage Woods Senior Living on Thursday, June 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. at 462 Main St., Agawam. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Attendees are asked to bring a lawn chair or blanket.

For more information, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

DRAFT ■ from page 1

mitted to the University of Rhode Island, a commitment he made before his junior year of high school. If his deal with the Orioles works out, Curran says he plans to play for the Orioles organization.

“I still have to go to Baltimore and go through the process,” said Curran. “I have to receive a physical and go through other things to finalize the deal.”

Curran has already been to Baltimore, working out for the Orioles, Los Angeles Angels and San Diego Padres. He loves the city.

“Baltimore is a beautiful city and I love the ballpark,” said Curran. “It was such a great experience.”

Curran’s road to an invitation to professional baseball was not without hurdles. As a junior, Curran missed a huge chunk of the season when he suffered from mononucleosis and missed several games.

“There was a time when I did not think I was going to get drafted at all,” said Curran. “But then I started doing showcases and workouts and things changed last summer.”

Curran got off to a very slow start this season, going 4-for-21. However, he ended up batting .443 for the season with 16 extra-

base hits. He had several three-hit games for a Brownies team that won only three games.

“It was a tough season,” said Curran. “I feel like I was pressing at the beginning of the season, but things went better as the season went on.” While visiting Baltimore, Curran said he met Orioles general manager Dan Duquette, a native of Dalton, Mass.

Curran is listed as a first baseman on the major league draft, though he has spent time this season playing the outfield and also has experience as a catcher. Scouts have reported liking Curran for his size and hitting ability. Curran also can run well for his size.



If Curran is able to finalize a deal with the Baltimore Orioles, he would be placed with the Orioles’ Rookie-class farm team in Sarasota, Fla., a move that could happen within two weeks.

“I’m really excited about the chance to play professional baseball,” said Curran. “It’s something I have wanted since I was child.” Curran is also a talented ice hockey player, helping lead Agawam to the state finals this season and a state championship in two years ago.

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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 336 calls for service from June 2 to June 8. The department made six arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Thursday, June 4

Samuel David Romanko, 22, of 100 Sheri Lane, Agawam, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and possession of an open container of alcohol in motor vehicle.

Friday, June 5

Maureen Burke, 32, of 56 Brien St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery.
Nicole Dibattista, 32, of 158 Old Farm Road, New-

ington, Conn., was arrested on a charge of larceny over \$250.
Homer Ruiz Salas, 27, of 1592 Dwight St., Springfield, was arrested on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and possession of an open container of alcohol in motor vehicle.

Saturday, June 6

Norman D. Plante, 66, of 108 Campbell Drive, Agawam, was arrested on charges of violation of an abuse prevention order and violation of harassment order.

Monday, June 8

Dominic A. Dilizia, Jr., 45, of 420 Main St., Apt. 47, Agawam, was arrested on charges of operating a motor vehicle with suspended license, operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration, and uninsured motor vehicle.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 64 EMS calls for June 2 to June 8, and the following emergency response calls.

On June 2 at 12:10 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street to assist invalid.
On June 2 at 5:53 p.m., the department responded to Ridgeway Drive for smoke scare, odor of smoke.
On June 2 at 8:17 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for lockout.
On June 3 at 8:35 a.m., the department responded to South West Street for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.
On June 3 at 11:10 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street for person in distress, other.
On June 3 at 11:19 a.m., the department responded to Perry Lane for local alarm system, malicious false alarm.
On June 3 at 5:40 p.m., the department responded to Route 57 East for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.
On June 4 at 5:28 a.m., the department responded to Barry Street for lockout.
On June 4 at 5:57 a.m., the department responded

to Amherst Avenue for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.
On June 4 at 5:59 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for cooking fire, confined to container.
On June 5 at 11:37 a.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for lockout.
On June 6 at 7:42 a.m., the department responded to Elbert Road for cooking fire, confined to container.
On June 6 at 3:40 p.m., the department responded to Letendre Avenue for fire, other.
On June 7 at 8:47 p.m., the department responded to Meadow Street for outside rubbish fire, other.
On June 7 at 9:24 p.m., the department responded to Paul Revere Drive for fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire contained.
On June 8 at 12:59 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street, was dispatched and canceled en route.
On June 8 at 5:46 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.
On June 8 at 6:23 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for citizen complaint.

Dinner with Friends



More than 100 diners showed up for the Friends of the Senior Center barbecue chicken dinner Tuesday night in the Agawam Senior Center. Emile Cote, who organized this season-ending event, said it was the best turnout yet for the monthly fundraisers, which began with a series of spaghetti suppers over the past year. The monthly schedule will resume in September with a different menu each month. Pictured at top, Senior Center chef manager Carol Bernazki serves chicken, corn on the cob, macaroni salad and strawberry shortcake to Senior Center Director Joan Linnehan, right, and guest Jess Bernier. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

New firefighter



A swearing-in was held for Call Firefighter Justin Lecuyer of Agawam on Tuesday, June 2. Pictured, from left, are Fire Chief Alan Sirois, Mayor Richard Cohen and Lecuyer. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Chamber to host annual breakfast June 18

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Breakfast Meeting Thursday, June 18, at 7 a.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam. The event is sponsored by OMG and Ormsby Insurance, and will kick off with the welcoming of new chairman Chuck Kelly and the incoming WRC Board of Directors.
Following the introductions, there will be a special presentation given by Nancy Butler, a national motivational speaker, business coach and award-winning author. After building a business from scratch to approximately \$200 million in assets under management, Butler sold her asset management and financial planning practice.

For the last eight years, she has helped business owners do a better job for their clients while improving their bottom line.
Sponsorship opportunities are still available as well as advertisement space in the annual meeting program booklet. Preferred sponsorships are \$250 and program ads are \$50.
Annual meeting tickets are now available and are \$25 for chamber members and \$30 for non-members.
To register for the event or for more information on sponsorship opportunities and program booklet advertisements, call 413-426-3880.

Six Flags free for first responders, blood donors on Flag Day, June 14

Six Flags New England will celebrate the Red, White and Blue with free admission for all fire, police and EMS staff, June 12-14, with proper identification. Friends and family of first responders can purchase discounted tickets.

Also on Flag Day, June 14, Six Flags will offer a free ticket, valid for one admission through Sept. 27, for each presenting donor at its blood drive in the Human Resources building, across the street from the park, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu
Monday, June 15: Mini ravioli with meat sauce, garden salad, apples.
Tuesday, June 16: Roast chicken cacciatore, pasta with extra sauce, pudding.
Wednesday, June 17: Cheeseburger, lettuce and tomato, potato salad, Jell-O.
Thursday, June 18: Baked ham dinner, baked sweet potatoes, peas, peaches.
Friday, June 19: Pot roast, gravy, roasted potatoes, green bean casserole, garlic bread, strawberry shortcake.

Calendar of Events
Monday, June 15: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo, Reiki (by appt.), Budgeting for Seniors seminar with Raymond Rose; 3 p.m., Senior Theater Rehearsal; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.
Tuesday, June 16: 9 a.m., Shuffleboard at St. John's

(Leonard Street), Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("Gi Gi"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class, Agawam Junior Women's Club.
Wednesday, June 17: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 8:30 p.m., Meet the Mayor; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 11:30 a.m., Golden Agers Chapter 2 Picnic; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Lessons, Scrabble, Line Dance Jamboree (\$5); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., Tobacco Valley Artists.
Thursday, June 18: 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 11 a.m., Trish from Baystate Rehab Info Table; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch, Evening Line Dancing.
Friday, June 19: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi (last class); Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

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GRADUATION 2015

Seniors depart AHS with some mixed emotions

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

"It's been a crazy ride, but it's been fun," said Erblina Nuhui as she and her friend Sasha Papova scrutinized their class yearbook at the annual breakfast for AHS seniors.

The breakfast, held just a few days before graduation, was where seniors picked up their yearbooks, graduation caps and gowns, school records and graduation tickets. It was also the final time the entire Class of 2015 would be together before receiving their diplomas and going their separate ways.

"This is it. No more special days together, no more lunches together, no more classes together. In some ways it's pretty sad for me. It's our last day together before graduation," said Nuhui, who will attend Holyoke Community College in the fall. She will pursue a career in business administration and plans to transfer to UMass to finish her studies.

Good times, good memories at AHS

Papova said she will miss her friends and favorite teachers as well as all the good times and good memories at AHS. But she's ready to start her college life at Western New England University, where she will study accounting.

"It's exciting for me," she said. "It will be a new start and a new life at college. It will be a new beginning, a new experience — something different that I'm looking forward to starting."

Sarah Kamukala stood in the middle of the cafeteria and watched as many of her classmates rushed around her getting breakfast or looking over their yearbooks. "It's kind of unreal," she said. "It feels sad because I'll miss my friends. And it's kind of scary to be starting over again in college."

Kamukala, who will be studying biology at UMass-Amherst, said she will miss the sense of community and the safety net that AHS provided. "I'm leaving that all behind now. I will be starting a new chapter in my life — and that feels good. I'm excited about doing that."

'A nice experience'

Unlike many of his classmates, Edward Sanchez has not been a part of the Class of 2015 since kindergarten. He started at AHS as a sophomore after attending Central High School in Springfield. "It's been a nice experience at AHS. I've made many new friends, learned a lot of new skills, and done well on the track team," said Sanchez, who will attend Westfield State University.

Like Sanchez, Kayla Carlin has been a member of the Class of 2015 for just a brief time. She attended high school in East Longmeadow and Enfield before her family moved to Agawam.

"It's been a long journey to get here and now it's almost over," said Carlin, whose first year at AHS is also her last. She plans to go Holyoke Community College to become a nurse.

"I've been here a short time, but I've made some pretty nice friends," she said as she put her arm on the shoulder of one of her friends, senior Mikki Robinson. While Carlin will miss friends like Robinson, what



Rachel Blain was one of the first students from the Class of 2015 to pick up her yearbook at the senior class breakfast. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Anastasiya Botnaru, left, and Brandon Cruz enjoy their last meal in the AHS cafeteria during the senior breakfast.



Sarah Kamukala picks up her last AHS yearbook at the senior breakfast on June 3.



Kayla Carlin, left, and Mikki Robinson — friends ever since Carlin transferred to AHS for her senior year of high school — share a moment together.



Tahir Blair and Brodie Keene will be headed in different directions following graduation. Blair will join the Air Force and Keene heads to college.

she'll miss even more is being a kid. "Now I have to grow up and become an adult."

Departing AHS 'bittersweet'

Robinson, who plans to take a year off before going to Holyoke Community College to prepare for a career in child care, said leaving AHS is "bittersweet."

"I'm happy I've made it through high school, but I'll miss what I've enjoyed here," she said, adding that she'll miss the drama club and drama classes the most. "It's been like a family to me — a big, happy family — and I'll miss that."

Anastasiya Botnaru said graduation takes a big weight off of her.

"I'm glad I done with high school and I want to move on," she said. Botnaru said she will miss the sports games, especially football, but is excited about going to Holyoke Community College to study art.

"It's nerve-racking knowing that graduation is the last time I'll see many of my friends," said Brodie Keene as he and classmate Tahir Blair chatted at the breakfast. "My friends are what got me through these past four years, so it's tough saying goodbye," said Keene, who enters Westfield State this fall.

Blair said it's sad to be leaving high school, but good to be entering the real world. And his real world will be the wild blue yonder. When he turns 18 the week after graduation, Boone is enlisting in the Air Force.

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GRADUATION 2015

Vintage chairs connect classes of '15, '65

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

At the annual senior breakfast, students who are just days away from graduating are looking ahead to beginning their lives after high school. This year, however, the Class of 2015 went back to the future to help a class that graduated from AHS 50 years ago.

Through a joint donation by the classes of 2015 and 1965, several chairs from the school that were destined for the dumpster are being rescued, refurbished, and preserved for use by future generations of students in the high school library. Both classes made a gift that totals nearly \$2,000 to have nine swivel chairs reupholstered in their original orange fabric.

Bob Guidetti, who chairs the reunion committee for the Class of 1965, said his class was looking to make a gift to AHS in acknowledgement of its reunion this October.

"The original thought was to give a cash gift to a number of graduating seniors, who best demonstrated the best and brightest of their class," said Guidetti.

But after further discussion, Guidetti said the committee decided it would be better to make a donation of something more permanent.

"One suggestion was to reupholster several chairs that were from the 1960s that had fallen on hard times and needed some TLC," said Guidetti, who added that the chairs may or may not have been at the school when his class attended, but are representative of that era.

Jeff Leclerc, president of the Class of 2015, said his class "was happy" to contribute to the project. "Our classes graduated a



Officers for the AHS Class of 2015 posed for a photo with members of the Class of 1965 reunion committee in front of two vintage 1960s chairs that both classes are preserving with a joint donation to have them refurbished. Seated in two of those chairs is Bob Guidetti, chair of the reunion committee, and Jeff Leclerc, president of the Class of 2015. Behind them are, from left, Linda Charest, Cathy Sloane, Lorlee Geissler, Laurene Kittler, Deborah DePalma and Nicholas DePalma (Class of '65 Reunion Committee members), AHS Principal Steve Lemanski, Class of 2015 officers Marisa Ewing (vice president), Michael Costello (treasurer) and Stephen Mateus (secretary). TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

half century apart, but this project makes a connection that brings us together," he said.

Leclerc added that for his generation, which views recycling as an important issue, it made sense for his class to help give new life to the old chairs: "Fixing something from another generation to make them usable is much better than just throwing them away."

The cost to reupholster three of the

chairs — which is being done by an Agawam business, Professional Upholstery — is being funded by an anonymous 1965 graduate and will be presented to AHS as a gift from the class. A plaque affixed to each chair will read "A Gift from the Class of '65, 50th Class Reunion."

The fourth chair is being gifted by Guidetti. The plaque on that chair will read "In Memory of William E. Turgeon, Class of '65"; Turgeon was one of Guidetti's closest

friends.

"Billy and I met in fifth grade at Phelps Elementary School," said Guidetti. "I was forever honored when he and his wife, Maureen, asked me to be the godfather to their eldest daughter Amy."

He recalled that Turgeon was a quarterback and the captain of the football and basketball teams as well as one of the class' most admired personalities at school.

"Billy was someone I truly looked up to as a leader and trusted friend," said Guidetti.

The Class of 2015 is donating funds to pay for the cost of refurbishing the remaining five chairs. A plaque on those chairs will permanently acknowledge the gift from this year's AHS graduating class.

According to AHS Principal Steve Lemanski, who discovered the worn chairs, the chairs have "a vintage look but are structurally good. They look like they are from the '60s."

Several members of the reunion committee, which includes Linda (Parzych) Charest, Deborah (Leclerc) DePalma, (who works in the Agawam Junior High School office and is the great aunt of Jeff Leclerc), Nicholas DePalma, Alexis (Radewick) Ferioli (assistant to the superintendent of schools), Lorrie (Kistner) Geissler, and Ron Provost, joined Guidetti at the breakfast and had their photo taken with the officers for the Class of 2015.

Guidetti said that his committee hopes the refurbished chairs will remain a part of the school for generations to come. "When the time comes again to rejuvenate these chairs, we're hoping some other class, or individual, will keep the ball rolling, add an additional plaque, and make this a tradition."



From left, McDonald's franchise owner George Gomez, Mc-Scholar Athletes Rachel Marie Fancy and Michael Pfau of Agawam High School, and former WNBA player Kara Wolters at a recent award ceremony at the Basketball Hall of Fame. SUBMITTED PHOTO

McDonald's honors 2 Agawam student-athletes

SPRINGFIELD — Rachel Marie Fancy of Agawam and Michael Pfau of Feeding Hills were presented with the McDonald's McScholar Athlete Award recently for exemplary athletic and academic achievements, strong leadership, good citizenship and high levels of integrity. The two seniors at Agawam High School were among the 89 students honored at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield by Scott Coen, a local media personality, and keynote speaker Kara Wolters, Olympic gold medalist with the U.S. Women's Basketball Team and former WNBA player.

George Gomez, a McDonald's manager from Ludlow, congratulated the athletes and welcomed the principals, parents, and coaches who turned out to honor the accomplishments of the scholar-athletes. The students have successfully balanced participation in school sports, strong academic standing, community volunteerism, as well as numerous other activities.

"We are excited to be recognizing our nineteenth McScholar class in 2015. These student-athletes are exemplary individuals and deserve to be commended for their accomplishments," said Gomez. "The McDonald's owner-operators of Western Massachusetts are proud to work with schools on this local program and wish all of the McScholar Athlete recipients continued success in the future."



Gail Jagodowski, right, is pictured with Mckensie Lockwood, left photo, and Mario Tedeschi, right photo, this year's recipients of "Lexi's Friends Award" scholarships. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

'Lace 'em Up for Lexi' scholars named

The seventh annual "Lace 'em Up for Lexi" 5K was held May 30 in Feeding Hills. The event provides a way for the family of Alexandra "Lexi" Jagodowski to give back to the Agawam/Feeding Hills community and to the Griffin's Friends organization for all the help and kindnesses shown during Lexi's illness.

Lexi was born Sept. 10, 1996. At the age of seven she was diagnosed with lymphoma. After two years of chemotherapy, her cancer went into remission, but by the age of 11, she suffered a relapse, along with leukemia.

She bravely battled her disease for five months and died on Sept. 16, 2008, just a week after her 12th birthday.

The yearly 5K race allows Lexi's family to offer college scholarships in her memory to Agawam High School seniors and also supports the Griffin's Friends Children's Cancer Fund at Baystate Health Foundation in Springfield.

Recipients of this year's scholarships were Mckensie Lockwood and Mario Tedeschi.

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GRADUATION 2015

AHS top graduates

Agawam High School recognized 11 students for their grade-point averages over four years of high school. The top student, Veronica Rubeck, earned valedictorian honors; the two tied for second-highest were named salutatorians; and the next eight students were recognized for achieving a top-10 GPA (there was a tie for 10th). Those eight graduates are shown in alphabetical order.



Veronica Rubeck, valedictorian



Jordan Reed, salutatorian



Allison Schwarz, salutatorian



Zachary Circosta



Cameron Czerpak



Lauren Hartmann



Paul Hotaling



Heather Howe



Stephen Mateus



Jesse Near



James Ridenour

Agawam High School's Class of 2015

The following students graduated from Agawam High School with the Class of 2015: Nicolas David Abodeeb, Orhan Ahmeti, Jamie Janae Allivato, Nicholas Joseph Antico, Gabriel Vincent Archambault, Alyssa Jean Askins, Weston Mitchell Asselin, Victoria Diana Baranov, Elijah Raye Bard, Zachary Charles Barker, Daniel Eric Barrows, Anthony Santino Basile, Christopher Riley Basile, Sarah Minda Bassette, Olivia Ann Beauvais, Alexandra Marie Beavis, Raphael Junior Belen, Zachary Paul Belmer, Andre Paul Bernatchez, Alison Eileen Bessette, William Roger Bessette, Rachael Ann Blain, Tahir Ivare Blair, Nicholas Jordan Blais, Anastasiya V. Botnaru, Mark Vyacheslavovich Botnaru, Alex John Bourget, Christopher Michael Breault, Scott Henry Breveleri, Angelo Giovanni Brignoli, Tyler Joseph Brouillette, Christene Sarah Brown, Brittany Marie Busco, Roland Lenard Bushee, Dominic Joseph Calcasola, Jordan Isaiah Callands, Justin Robert Cappuccio, Jason Thomas Carleton, Kayla Teresa Carlin, Shayne Christopher Castonguay, Matthew Anthony Cavallo, Lexi Ann Cears, Richard Wayne Cears, Erika Jane Chancellor, Nicole Marie Christian, Zachary Thomas Circosta, John Dalton Colleto, Andrew John Colson, John Peter Colwell, William Jacob Conklin, Mark Jeffrey Connaughton, Hannah Abigail Cooper, Timothy Antonio Cooper, Joseph Dominick Cortese, Michael James Costello, Andrew Robert Crochetiere, Brandon Gionel Cruz, Griffin William Cunningham, Erin Marie Curran, Seamus Magnus Curran, Cameron Anthony Czerpak, Dasaan Kanei Daniels, Mia Angela Davidson, Jonathan Robert Day, Patrick Joseph Deane, Amanda Marie Delore, Elizabeth Reed Depalo, Garrett Diduk, Daniel Peter Dobek, Anthony Thomas Donahue, Jacqueline Pauline Donahue, Skylar Kirsten Downs, Jamie Robert Drew, Dalton Donald Drummond, Sabrina Olivia Dubiel, Christopher Robert Dudley, Jacob Raymond Duffus, Megan Lynn Dustin, Alexander Lawrence Dusza, Liya Dzyubenko, Alyssa Rose Eggleston, Sumeyye Elevli, Kali Rose Evangelista, Carly Ann Evelyn, Marisa Nicole Ewing, Rachel Marie Fancy, Kaitlyn Ann Fanning, Megan Rose Farwell, Emily Elizabeth Feid, Kayleigh Ann Fellion, Mario Robert Ferrentino, Emma Jean Foley, Robert Thomas Fontaine, Andrew David Forrest, Anthony Renzo Frigo, Nathan Craig Futrell, Griffin Shane Gadreault, Ashley Marie Gage, Christopher William Gage, David Sylvester Gage, Goshen Angel Gardner, Devin Keith Gates, Hannah Estelle Gingras, Jesse Kevin Giroux-Buchanan, Shawna Lillian Gogal, Kayla Marie Goldie Opalenik, Katalina Isabel Gomez, Samuel Robert Gordon, Michael Thomas Goyette, Tara Lynn Graham, Sarah Elizabeth Graves, Teresa Ann Graziano, Samantha Lynne Gregory, Ruslan Vasilivich Grigorchuk, Monique Susanne Groux, Alyssa Marie Guerette, Clement Bonheur Hagenimana, Nicholas Theodore Hanchett, Drew Michael Hardy, Joseph Anthony Harnois, Lauren Rose Hartmann, Ian Nathaniel Hastings, Alexandria Marie Haupt, Shaun Iziah-kwamell Haynes, Tyler Heer, Taylor Elizabeth Heinbokel, Samantha Leigh Henry, Carson Stiles Hitchcock, Jacob Francis Hoban, Nicholis Jacob Hope, Rebecca Renee Hopkins, Paul Scott Hotaling, Zachary Stocking Housman, Heather Elizabeth Howe, Vasili Vasilivich Hrytskevich, Kaitlin Nicole Humiston, Diana Myanh Huynh, Alec Vincent Iannuzzi, Emily Isabella Jabry, Emily Julia Jefferson, Luke Raymond Jodoin, Mark Anthony Johnson, Oleg Kaletin, Sarah Kokunula Kamukala, Tatyana Petrovna Kaptyug, Taylor Lynn Kareta, Frederick Chas Karl-Morin, James Stuart Karl-Morin, Brodie Austin Keene, Brenden Joseph Knowlton, Kyle Marcus Kopyscinski, Dominic Kosior, Haley Elizabeth Kozlak, Carly Ann LaBelle, Kyle Hilton LaMountain, Casandra Destiny Land, Leonid Lapsov, Michael Francis Largay, Jonathan Michael Latourelle, Daniel Joseph Lavoie, Katrina Sandra Laz, Christopher John LaZazzera, Thomas Giovanni Lazio, Chloe Noelle Leclerc, Jeffrey Rice Leclerc, Kristina Lynn Lemire, Xinning Li, Michael Donald Liquori, Mckensie Ellen Lockwood, Tyler Braedon Loubier, Jared Michael Lubarsky, April Lyn Lucia, Braden Christopher Walker Lucia, Jordan Haley Lunden, James Anthony Macey, Cynthia Danielle Maddison, Brenden Mark Mahoney, Viktoriya Maklakova, Daniel Maly, Khouloud Said Mandour, Raffaele Teodoro Manzi, Taylor Ann Marcotte, Matthew Patrick Mariani, Dylan Alexander Marshall, Kaitlyn Marie Martin, Stephen Robert Mateus, Victoria Elizabeth McCullough, Samuel Joseph McCurdy, Kyla Jessica McGurn, Gregory James McLaughlin, John Nicholas Meader, Angelina M. Melloni, Natalya A. Menovshchikova, Joseph Angelo Mercadante, Samantha Lynn Messier, Nathaniel David Mickey, Ashley May Micks, Marissa Antonia Miller, Christopher Peter Miranda, Irina Mita, Makenna E. Moen, Rylie Nugent Molloy, Sean Christopher Monahan, Melissa Rene' Montagna, Kayla Marie Moquin, Ann Hong Jiao Mozzer, Daniel Patrick Muldrew, Christopher Neil Mullins, Hunter James Murphy, Emily Rose Murphy, Jesse Steven Near, Jaclyn Amber Neilsen, Gianna Lee Nettis, Alexander Paul Niemiec, Erbina Nuhui, Alissa Ann O'Connell, Kristen Elizabeth Odell, Lindsey Alesondra Opitz, Kristofer Michael Page, Vincent Bernard Panuccio, Aliaksandra Viktorovna Papova, Rebecca Lynn Paquette, Roshni Sanjay Patel, Anna Frances Pellegrino, Emily Margaret Percy, Cory Joseph Pfau, Michael John Pfau, Jonathan Michael Phillips, Megan Phu, Jessica Maria Pioggia, Haley Lynn Piotrowski, Cody John Plamondon, Matthew John Plumador, Lissa Ashley Popp, Michael John Potter, Jakoria Lashee Powell, Stephanie Ann Rafay, Cameron Mark Randall, Jordan Luther-Clark Reed, Michael Edward Reed, Skyelyn Starr Reyes, Luke Donald Rheault, James Robert Ridenour, Lauren Olivia Rinaldi, Lisa Nicole Risley, Stephanie Laura Rivers, Cameron Paul Rivest, Rosaria Marie Robidoux, Daniel Richard Robie, Jasmine Shyvonne Robinson, Michyla Christine Robinson, Jennifer Rose Root, Veronica Anne Rovatti, Veronica Allison Rubeck, Sharalee Ester Rudzik, Giovanni Michele Russo, Evelina Dmitrievna Salagornik, Edward Elijah Sanchez, Jr., Meaghan Jacqueline Sanschagrin, Sebastian Joseph Sarno, Benjamin David Schiff, Allison Nathalie Schwarz, Vincenzo Gerald Scuderi, Emma Viktorovna Sergeychik, Alissa Nicole Serra, Courtney Paige Sherman, Victoria Ellen Shortt, Whitney Dale Shortt, Thomas Vincent Sibilia, Jr., Gianna Josephine Signorelli, Joseph Medeiros Silva, Emily Michelle Slinsky, Amanda Renee Smith, Antonio Richard Smith, Garrett Chapin Southworth, Alexander Michael Sours, Nicole Evelyn Spafford, Shelby Anne Spagnoli, Jennifer Nicole Stempel, Andrew Paul Strong, Alexandria Mae Stuetzel, Yanaira Nicole Suarez, Jae Yeun Suk, Keegan Elizabeth Sullivan, Paul Anthony Taft, Kameron Kay Tang, Kayla Janine Tausendfreund, Presley Hope Taylor, Mario Robert Tedeschi, Brian Keith Thomas, Jr., Joseph Samuel Thresher, Ashley Lynn Tibbetts, Marissa Luz Tomlinson, Rebecca Elizabeth Uschmann, Cassandra Ann Veighey, Kerrie Marie Vella, Christina Ann Verbetsky, Ellen Alexandra Vyce, Lindsey Irene Wassung, Peyton Ashleigh Watford, Ashley Lynn Webster, Patrick Tyler White, Macklen Thomas Meffen Wier, Jerid Tylor Witt, Eric Allen Wolowicz, Philip Christopher Woods, Christopher Ray Wyckoff, Zachary Michael Wysocki.

Lions scholars



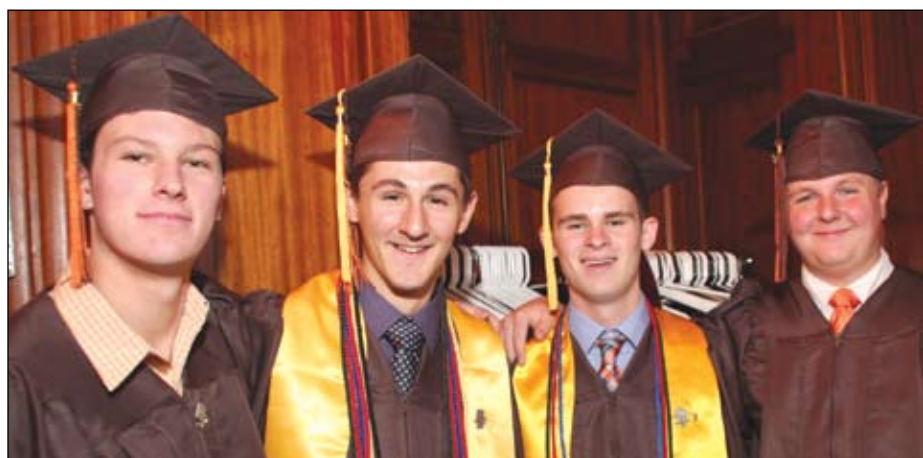
The Agawam Lions Club recently honored its 2015 scholarship winners. Pictured left to right are William Sapelli, superintendent of schools; scholarship winners Paul Hotaling, Heather Howe, Cameron Rivest, William Conklin, Nicholas Blais, Patrick Deane; and club members Scott Wheeler, William Egan and Lorna Disantis. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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GRADUATION 2015



Viktoriya Makiakova, Khouloud Mandour, Samantha Gregory and Monique Groux enjoy each other's company while waiting for graduation ceremonies to begin.



From left, Eric Wolowicz, Stephen Mateus, Phillip Woods and Alex Dusza eagerly await the awarding of their diplomas.

GRAD ■ from page 1

This year's graduation also marked one of the first times that there were two salutatory addresses. This rare occurrence happened because after all the coursework was calculated, both Jordan Reed and Allison Schwarz had exactly the same grade and were tied at number two in their class. Veronica Rubeck delivered the valedictory address. And, instead of the traditional address by the high school principal, a senior performed on stage a song with lyrics he had written specifically for his graduating class.

Of the more than 300 seniors who received diplomas, 170 are committed to four-year, private or public colleges and universities. Eighty-four plan to attend two-year colleges, six will go to vocational or technical schools, and 11 will join the military.

But before they received their diplomas so they could celebrate this major achievement in their lives, the Class of 2015 heard some parting words of advice from class leaders, school administrators, and the mayor.

'A joy to be at graduation'

Valedictorian Veronica "Allie" Rubeck told her classmates how honored she was to be addressing her class as valedictorian — something one of her middle school teachers had predicted.

"After all of our hardships and setbacks, the failed tests and essays written 10 minutes before they're due, the late nights and copied homework, along with the oh-so terrible senioritis, it's truly a joy to be at graduation," said Rubeck.

She added the while she has so many people to thank for helping her with this achievement — family, friends, and teachers — she singled out the two class salutatorians for not only being "great friends and classmates," but also for encouraging her every step of the way.

"While I won't necessarily miss high school itself, I will never forget it," Rubeck said.

Rubeck said high school was an opportunity for her class to learn about themselves and that their successes or failures do not define them, "but how you grow from them does. In a sense, high school is about learning to embrace your strengths and weaknesses, to accept them as a part of who you are."

She added that just as she and her classmates learned from their accomplishments and losses, they also learned from their rebellions: sneaking in coffee, violating the dress code, and making their own parking spaces.

"From these small acts of defiance, we discovered what is important to us and worth fighting for. We learned to embody a certain strength of mind and a refusal to be silenced. We learned to become fearless," said Rubeck. "We learned to confront challenges head-on and are not afraid of new opportunities and experiences. In this fearlessness



Valedictorian Veronica Rubeck

is a hope for our futures, that we will become independent, assertive, and unafraid of taking risks."

Rubeck said the most important thing she learned at AHS is that people can only succeed by taking risks. "We're all taking a risk in leaving Agawam High: for some of us it's moving away for college, for others it's figuring out how to be on our own. Sometimes the greatest risk in life is growing up, as terrible as that might sound. But with these risks, you learn to trust in yourself, to realize that no matter what happens, you can handle it."

She told her classmates that the greatest lesson is learning "to trust that all you've learned and all you've experienced is enough to guide you." Rubeck said the Class of 2015 is ready for whatever the future might hold. "We might not be sure what it is we want to do with our lives, but we can be certain that we can and will do great things."

An unmatched level of unity

Jordan Reed said he's been anticipating speaking before to the Class of 2015 as salutatorian ever since eighth grade, when he promised himself he would finish as one of the top two in the class.

While considering what to write for his speech, Reed said he came to the realization that the best thing to do was to just be himself.

"After all, isn't that what we've all been doing for the past 13 years?" he said. "Sure, we might have tried to fit in to various groups during our years in school, but in the end, those have only just shaped who we actually are."

He said every person in his class has a reputation, "whether it's being committed to playing Division 1 sports, part of that strange and mysterious group known as Rosie Robotics, or that gangly kid who's good at video games, and instead of being a doctor or an engineer, is going to be a pastor."

Reed said these stereotypes are all parts of who his classmates are, but they don't truly define them as individuals. "And why is that? Because they are based on how other people perceive us. Everyone in this room has their own perception of themselves, and that is our greatest tool in life."

He told his classmates that when they stepped out of the doors of Symphony Hall, they would be taking their first steps into the real world.

"The only way for us to succeed is to be ourselves," he said. "Don't worry about what everyone else says about you. We've already spent the past 13 years of our lives worrying about that. Class of 2015, I've seen what you guys can do, and I know that we can tackle the world if all we do is believe in ourselves and drown out the negativity."

Reed called the past 13 "the best years" of his life. "I've grown up alongside many of you, as a classmate and as a friend, and I know that what this class has is special. We've made it through our fair share of losses, with the passing of

two of our fellow classmates. At the same time, we've also been a part of some of our school's greatest successes, such as the hockey and volleyball teams, to name just two."

He added that the one thing that has defined his class has been its sense of community. "That's what makes us the best class to ever go through Agawam High School. We demonstrated an unmatched level of unity, and I'm proud to say I was a part of it."

'Countless memories'

Salutatorian Allison Schwarz said graduation day is about moving forward, but also a time to look back, adding that her class' senior year "went by in a flash," but left "countless memories" behind.

"One of my most memorable moments was our senior prom, 'An Evening in Wonderland,'" said Schwarz. "It proved to be the most extravagant prom Agawam has hosted to date, incorporating features from Disney's 'Alice in Wonderland.' We had the perfect theme; it combined both the imagination and the curiosity of a child. It reminded me that as we leave our childhood behind, we should never forget to wonder about the unusual, for you'll never know what you will discover."

She said the presence of brothers, sisters, moms, dads, aunts, uncles, grandparents and friends at graduation is much appreciated, because all of them have played a part in getting her classmates to this point in their lives: "You were the helping hand: the bus driver, the teacher, the protector, and the supporter. You were the one who dragged us out of bed when we didn't want to go to school, you cheered us up when we were sad, and most importantly, you took all those pictures that keep popping up on slide shows and posters as we reminisce on the past 18 years."

Schwarz added that as she looks back at those photographs, she only remembers the good times, not the bloody nose she got at band camp or the bad grade on a test.

"It was in those good times; the family vacations, birthday parties, and field trips that helped us find our friends and become who we are today," she said. "Each and every one of us has our own story. Whether you were an athlete, a band member, or maybe you just sat on the side lines, there will always be that one memory that sticks with you. It could be this day or it could be that very first day of high school freshman year."

She told her classmates that it doesn't matter where they came from or where they're going, whether someone started in Agawam 13 years or 13 weeks ago, they are all together for graduation.

"We're sharing something more important than a test grade," Schwarz said. "We're sharing the beginning of our future. Don't be afraid to try something new or take a chance. You never know what may come of it."

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Salutatorian Allison Schwarz



Salutatorian Jordan Reed



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Ellen Vyce, Taylor Marcotte, Sabrina Dubiel, Emma Foley, and Katalina Gomez are excited about finally graduating from high school.



Andrew Strong, left, and Matthew Plumador found a small corner where they shared some final thoughts about their high school years together.



Ali Stuetzel and Michael Pfau check out pictures of their classmates on a cell phone.



Karen Jefferson, right, helps her daughter Emily adjust her graduation gap.



Jamie Allivato receives her diploma from Mayor Richard Cohen as School Committee member Carmine Mineo looks on.

GRAD ■ from page 11

'Continue to explore'

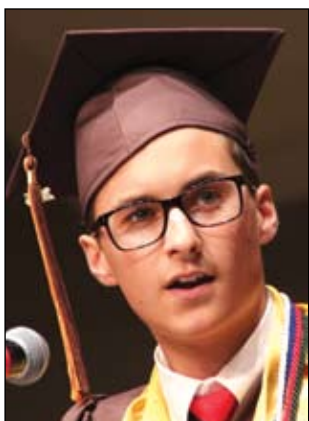
Jeff Leclerc, president of the Class of 2015, said in his speech that there is a common misperception about happiness.

"Happiness is not something you have," he said. "Happiness is not a destination. Happiness is more like hunger. It's not tangible, nor is it permanent. It's only temporary. It comes and it goes. It's our time spent hungry that allows us to develop a greater appreciation for our meals. Look, good and bad is going to happen, that's just a fact of life. So eat up when your plate is full, and when it is empty don't let that tear you down, but use it as motivation to work hard. And in the time when your plate is full, always be willing to give a little bit to someone else."

Leclerc told his classmates — which he called the "greatest class" to walk through AHS — that as they move forward and grow, they will soon realize that "life is not about how many followers you have on Twitter or how many people liked your Instagram photo, which was probably filtered, but more so about uncovering your passions and spending your time doing the things that make you happy. In the words of Dr. Seuss, which have been used in every graduation speech since our school was built, 'Be who you are and say what you feel, because those whose mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind.'"

He went on to say that life is about doing what you want, spending time the way you think life should be lived and not trying to overly impress people.

"Continue to explore your own individuality, always maintaining an open mind, and allowing those with similarities to gravitate towards you," he urged his class. "Stand up for what you believe in, and remember that the first person to run through the wall will always come out the bloodiest. Never be afraid to run through that wall, for the



Class President Jeff Leclerc

satisfaction of making it to the other side will always outweigh the pain."

Don't be afraid

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski departed from his traditional speech to the graduating class. He usually writes down quotes and lyrics to songs to incorporate into his speech.

But this year, he did what he called "something much more special" by allowing a member of the class, Dan Dobek, perform a song he wrote titled "All That Counts." Lemanski called it "his gift" to the Class of 2015.

In his closing remarks, Lemanski echoed a theme in speeches by the three top-ranking students, telling the Class of 2015 not to be afraid to take a risk. He then quoted from the late tennis player Arthur Ashe, who said, "Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can." Lemanski ended his address by urging the graduating class to "Have a great life."

In his annual commencement address, Superintendent of Schools William Sapelli told the Class of 2015 that each year in their journey to graduation day is "a special moment in time" because it's their first experience learning at that grade level.

"There certainly have been many other special moments in your lives as you have matured into the young adults sitting before me today. Maybe it was 'Moving up Day,' DARE graduation, participating on a varsity team, performing in the school play, receiving your Agawam 'A,' or being inducted into a National Honor Society," he said.

Sapelli added that during their sophomore year, members of the Class of 2015 had the rare privilege of seeing their school hockey and volleyball teams win state championships. This year, he said, the school's wind ensemble won a state award



Dan Dobek performs "All That Counts," on stage before his classmates. He wrote the song specifically for graduation.

for the second year in a row and also was invited to play at Boston's Symphony Hall, while the hockey team made the state finals and got the honor of playing at Boston Garden.

"Each and every one of these memories should be cherished because it was one special moment on the road to today," he said.

Sapelli said the graduation ceremony is the only time in their lives when they will walk across the stage to receive a high school diploma.

"Cameras will flash, hands will be shaken, and words of congratulations will be spoken," he said. "So savor this moment and let it fill you with pride in your accomplishment. Remember, your life began as a remarkable occasion — a special moment in time. Now it's up to you to take that life and to make it as rewarding and fulfilling as possible."

'Make smart choices'

Mayor Richard Cohen told the Class of 2015 that they are not just an average group of young men and women.

He said they "may very well be the best class to have walked the halls of 760 Cooper Street." Cohen said that as he reflected on their last four years, he had "a great sense of pride — pride in the quality of work, pride in the number of AP exams that were taken, and passed — pride in the outstanding colleges and universities you were accepted to, and, a great sense of pride and respect in the number of graduates going into the U.S. military."

He told the soon-to-be graduates that the next chapter of their lives is about to begin: "You've arrived at a point in life where what lies before you may be completely unknown. And even if you do know the direction you're going — and you have the map to get there — remember that it's the journey that makes the trip." Cohen told the Class of 2015 that the journey will be scary at times, rewarding at others. "You will be filled with anticipation, and sometimes fear, and sometimes great doubt. But that's what's great about your future, that's what's great about the journey. Success is a journey, not a destination."

He urged the Class of 2015 to never stop learning, never stop challenging themselves, to listen to their inner self and go with their gut. "Make smart choices. And dream, dream with such positivity and passion that those dreams become a reality. You get to shape your life story, not the other way around."

Katalina

Richard B
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Sweethear

GRADUATION 2015



GRADUATION 2015



Gomez, Jared Lubarsky and Carly Evelyn pose outside Symphony Hall.



From left, Brian Thomas Jr., Dalton Drummond and Timothy Cooper Jr. have been through some tough times together at AHS and are looking forward to life after high school.



Michael Reed, adjusting his necktie while waiting outside Symphony Hall, needed sunglasses for the sunny graduation day.



Michael Reed gets an onstage hug from his mother, School Committee member Shelley Reed, after receiving his diploma.



Veronica Rubeck, Sarah Kamukala, Vincent Panuccio and Elizabeth Depalo pose for photos on the steps of Symphony Hall.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 23



LEFT: Grads Amanda Smith, left, and Makenna Moen are all smiles after finding each other at the end of graduation.



Graduates Lisa Riley and Jamie Drew graduated together.



Sebastian Sarno uses a "selfie stick" to take pictures of himself and some of his classmates.



Lauren Rinaldi, left, and Marisa Ewing, Class of 2015 vice president, were among the first seniors to arrive at Symphony Hall in Springfield.

SPORTS

SOFTBALL

Brownies oust Chicopee from softball tourney

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School softball team had a disaster of a final game last season, losing in extra innings to Chicopee in the opening round of the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament.

This season went a lot differently as the Brownies dispatched the Pacers in quick fashion 10-0 last Wednesday afternoon at Agawam High School.

It ended another strong year for the Pacers as they were playoff contenders throughout the season.

Agawam's offense was just too much for starting pitcher Mary Kate Meunier.

In the bottom of the second, Maria Moccio got things going, reaching on an error. She would move over when Ellen Vyce reached on a bunt single. Sabrina Dubiel, the Brownie catcher, came to the plate and socked a triple to plate the first two runs of the game.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Agawam kept the momentum coming as Vyce started a two-out rally with a walk. Dubiel would single, which brought Ka-

tie Grasso to the plate with a pair of runners on with two outs.

She was followed by Rachel Laponese, who socked a two-run home run that she legged out all the way, raising the score to 6-0 after four innings.

Agawam was looking to put the game away early with another rally in the fifth inning, but came up two runs short. They did, how-

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Becca Uschmann rounds third and heads for home.



Maria Moccio makes a throw across to first base. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

GIRLS LACROSSE

Agawam overwhelms Marlborough 17-7

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – For the second straight season, the Agawam High School girls lacrosse team opened up the tournament with a victory over Marlborough.

This game was decided a lot earlier as the Brownies scored 11 first-half goals and had an 11-3 lead at halftime.

The Brownies would go on to defeat No. 11 Marlborough 17-7 to advance to the quarterfinals of the Central/West Massachusetts Division I Tournament. The Brownies moved on the road to play at Algonquin in the quarterfinals.

In the victory, Katie Martin had a huge day, scoring nearly half of Agawam's goals with eight. Jackie Neilsen also had a huge day with five goals and two assists.

Though the Brownies had a 5-0 lead in the first 10 minutes of the game, Marlborough did not give up and broke through at the 13-minute mark.

Martin scored four of the first five goals in the game. She took a pass from Jill Scherpa and went to the goal and gave Agawam a 1-0 lead less than a minute into the game. Julia Serra would score the next goal for the Brownies less than 20 seconds later.

Martin would connect for the second goal of the game at the 21:48 mark. Eliza Timms got the assist. Serra and Martin connected on the fifth goal of the game



Katie Martin makes a run up the field. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Jill Scherpa looks for an open teammate.

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BOYS LACROSSE

Brownies stopped in 1st round by St. John's

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The season has ended for the Agawam High School boys lacrosse team as it was defeated in the opening round of the Central/West Division II Tournament last Tuesday afternoon.

In the second year of a two-year experiment where the regional tournament features Western and Central Mass. teams, Agawam drew a long road trip, traveling to St. John's of Shrewsbury.

No. 12 Agawam dropped the

playoff opener 10-7 in a close game that saw three goals from Nick Hanchett and two goals from Matt Lemke.

St. John's did an excellent job keeping Agawam's top scorers away from the goal, and Agawam's senior-heavy offense was not able to overcome the three-goal deficit near the end of the game.

The loss ended a tough season for Agawam.

Agawam was able to qualify for the tournament with an 11-7 record, but their strength of scheduled landed them the No. 12 seed. After starting out the

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VOLLEYBALL

Westfield spikes Agawam run

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The volleyball season definitely belonged to Westfield High School this year.

Agawam lost twice to Westfield in the regular season and then fell for a third time last Wednesday evening in the semifinals of the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament.

Westfield won 3-1 and went on sweep Chicopee Comprehensive High School in the tournament finals on Monday evening.

After falling behind 2-0, the Brownies were able to capture

their only win of the match in the third game, winning 25-18. The Bombers would recover and won the fourth game convincingly 25-15.

The Bombers won the first two games 25-18 and 25-17. The victory advance Westfield to its first-ever appearance in the finals, where it would capture its first-ever sectional championship.

Westfield had a big advantage right out of the gate, and did not relinquish the lead. Agawam finally found some momentum in

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Sports



Pitcher Allison Wheeler contributes a hit to the Agawam offense. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

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ever, put up four more runs and with the way Allison Wheeler was pitching, the game was simply out of reach.

Becca Uschmann led off the fifth with a single and moved up to second on a single by Moccio.

Jess Lingenberg then delivered a hard single that allowed Uschmann to come around and score. With runners at first and second again, Vyce delivered a sacrifice bunt to move the runners over. Dubiel grounded out to drive in a run, and Lapponese and Wheeler delivered singles to bring in two more runs to make it 10-0.

With the tough outing, Meunier was lifted during the fifth inning for Brianna Wright. Wright would finish the game with two innings.

Meanwhile, Wheeler was nearly un-

touchable for the Brownies. She was revved up for the tournament and spun a three-hitter.

The Brownies would play excellent defense behind Wheeler, who did not walk a batter and struck out six.

Wheeler also finished the game with two hits. Lapponese had the big day with three hits, including the home run and two RBI. Dubiel had two hits and three RBI. Grasso also finished driving in two runs.

The No. 3 Brownies headed to the University of Massachusetts-Amherst on Monday for the Western Mass. semifinals against No. 2 Minnechaug. The Brownies split two games with the Falcons this season.

If Agawam wins, they play in the finals at UMass, currently scheduled for Saturday, June 13, at 4 p.m.



Haley Kozlak tries to defend the Agawam end of the field. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

GIRLS LACROSSE ■ from page 14

with 14:31 left. Serra made the pass over to Martin, who found a lane to score on.

Up 5-0, Marlborough scored its first goal. But Agawam came back with two more of its own. Martin scored her sixth goal with an assist by Neilsen, and Neilsen followed with her first goal of the game.

Martin would score twice more in the first half for seven of her eight goals. Neilsen also scored another goal with a minute remaining in the frame.

The Brownies would cruise from there, slowing down the pace during the second half. They still outscored the visitors 6-4.

Neilsen had three of the six goals, while Serra added a goal, Martin one, and one by Nina Signorelli to cap off the offensive game.

On defense, Agawam also played very well. The Brownies did not allow a goal for the first 12 minutes of the game. Kristina Chan picked up four saves in the net and Sabrina Christie got into the game and made two saves for the Brownies.

No. 6 Agawam beat Marlborough in the opening round last season in a game that was also played at home. This is the second year of an experimental playoff format that includes teams from West and Central Mass.

The Brownies were then dealt a blow, getting outlasted by 3-2 by West Springfield. As the season progressed, Agawam would find Chicopee Comprehensive had regained its previous championship caliber form and Westfield had developed into a champion.

Both teams would sweep the Brownies for four more losses and Agawam would wind up with a 13-5 regular season record.

The Brownies entered the tournament with a quarterfinal matchup against Athol. The Brownies had some struggles, but wound up with a 3-1 win on June 1.

Agawam won the state championship two years and was the runner-up last season in a loss against Newton South. Agawam went 5-5 in the North League, a league that won by Comp and Westfield (both 9-1).

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the third set, and was able to keep its distance to get the seven-point victory.

In his final game with Agawam, Jeff Leclerc had 16 kills and 14 digs. Mike Basile added 10 kills and four blocks, and Kris Page had eight kills and four aces. Garrett Hollander, who had an excellent season for the Brownies as the new setter, had 34 assists. Roman Moka contributed 21 digs and Anthony Frigo had 11 digs.

After graduating five of seven starters from last year's state championship runner-up team, the Brownies still performed very well despite being in a "rebuilding" state.

Agawam would win its first four games of the regular season, sweeping four 3-0 games.

GOLF CALENDAR

Annual tournament fights for autism

AGAWAM - The ninth annual charity golf tournament to benefit Radcliffe is the Reason and Arthur Too! Fight for Autism will take place Friday, June 12, at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with lunch starting at 11 a.m. Tee times begin at noon with a shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded. Following golf, dinner will begin at 6 p.m. featuring numerous raffle prizes.

Cost is \$560 per foursome, which includes greens fees and cart, lunch and dinner. Non-golfers may attend the dinner only for \$35. Checks should be made payable to Radcliffe is the Reason and Arthur Too! Fight for Autism, P.O. Box 894, East Longmeadow, MA 01028.

For more information visit radcliffe-fightsforautism.org or email radcliffe345@yahoo.com.

Golfers wanted for second annual Menard Memorial Golf Tournament

AGAWAM - The second annual William D. Menard Memorial Golf Tournament will take place at Oak Ridge Golf Club, 850 South Westfield St., on Sunday, June 14.

Local golf pro William, (Billy), Menard passed away unexpectedly after a short illness in October 2013 at the age of 29. Billy played golf for Agawam High School, Johnson Wales University; returning to Agawam to become an assistant pro at area courses including Crestview Country Club and Ellington Ridge in Connecticut.

Billy's passion for golf was reflected in his devotion to the sport in both his personal and professional life. Billy especially loved teaching junior golfers how to play the "right way" and always included the life's lessons that go with the sport.

Billy's family and friends would like to honor his memory by holding this annual tournament with proceeds going toward funding a scholarship established in his name. The scholarship will be presented to a local student studying golf course management in college; winners will be announced at the end of each tournament. This year marks the second year of the event held at Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills.

Golfers interested in playing, sponsors, and those wishing to make donations should contact; Bryan Menard at billygolf13@gmail.com for information and entry forms. The field is limited to 36 teams and entry fees and donations should be in by June 14.

Join Billy's family and friends in honoring his memory with a great day of golf and fun.

Suffield Chamber to host 20th golf tourney

SUFFIELD - The 20th Annual Suffield Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament will be held Thursday, June 11, at the Suffield Country Club, 341 North Main St. The profits from this event will go toward Chamber scholarships and various community projects. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by the shotgun, four-person scramble at noon. Dinner, which is included for golfers but open to all members and guests, is at 6 p.m., followed by awards, a raffle and silent auction.

Registration forms are available at www.suffieldchamber.com. Sponsorships are available, raffle gifts and silent auction donations are accepted. Checks may be made payable to Suffield Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 741, Suffield, CT 06078.

For more information, contact info@suffieldchamber.com.

Date set for 2015 Jimmy Fund Jeffrey Vinick Memorial Golf Tournament

AGAWAM - The 36th Annual Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament/Jeffrey Vinick Memorial will take place Monday, June 15 at three area golf courses: Crestview Country Club in Agawam; The Ranch Golf Club in Southwick; and Ellington Ridge Country Club in Ellington, Conn.

Tournament organizers recently announced the 2015 sponsorship levels and they are as follows: Cart \$2,950; Bronze \$5,250; Silver \$7,500; Gold \$10,000; Platinum \$15,000; Platinum Plus \$20,000; Diamond \$25,000; and Double Diamond, \$50,000.

Each sponsorship level includes a variety of player spots, gifts, recognition opportunities and a listing in the tournament program and website. Sponsorships are also available for Hospitality Plus \$1,000; Hospitality \$575; Exclusive Hole \$300; Tee & Green \$175; and Hole in One.

Please consider joining us in the fight against cancer through a generous sponsorship at the level of your choice. All proceeds from this tournament will support adult and pediatric care and research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Interested companies and individuals may contact the Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament/Jeffrey Vinick Memorial Golf line at 866-521-4653, register online at www.jfvinickgolf.org, or email vinick_memorial@dfci.harvard.edu for more information.

HCC annual Red Sox trip to Fenway

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Community College baseball program third annual fundraiser Boston Red Sox bus trip to Fenway Park will take place on Sunday, June 14.

The game against the Toronto Blue Jays will start at 1:35 p.m.

The cost is \$85, which includes deluxe motor coach transportation, right field grandstand ticket and snacks and soft drinks.

The bus departs from the Bartley Fitness Center at Holyoke Community College at 10 a.m. and leaves Fenway Park one

half hour after the conclusion of the game.

Should there be a rainout prior to departure, the trip will be rescheduled according to the makeup date. Should the game get rained out while in transit or at the park, you would keep your tickets and be responsible for your own transportation to the makeup game.

To reserve your spot please contact former HCC baseball coach Terry Murphy via e-mail at tmurphy1hcc@comcast.net or former player Larry Maiolo at maiolola@comcast.net

BOYS LACROSSE ■ from page 14

season with a 3-1 record, the Brownies lost four straight games to drop below the .500 mark.

Agawam would put things back together and scored an 11-5 win over Pittsfield. The win was key for Agawam as it set in motion a seven-game win streak that brought the Brownies from below .500 to qualifying for the tournament.

Agawam then went on a downward trend near the end of the season, losing three of four, followed by their loss in the tournament.

Last season, Agawam won its opening round matchup, then lost in the quarterfinals against perennial powerhouse Longmeadow High School.

Agawam played in the Valley League this season, and placed second with a 6-2

record. Both of their losses came against Cathedral, which won the league.

For the season, senior Elijah Bard led the way with 88 points. He scored 60 goals and had 28 assists. John Colwell also had a very strong season. She scored 35 goals and had 40 assists. Chris Basile scored 30 goals this season.

Agawam's offense was on display for most of the season. Agawam scored eight or more goals in 13 of 19 games this year.

The Brownies will have a tough time replacing the experience level, losing much of their midfield and offense to graduation. Also graduating is goalie Tahir Blair, who had an excellent career the past two seasons for Agawam.

Sophomore Zach Fiedler had limited actions this past season as the backup and could get the opportunity to start next spring.

In the Classroom

Juniors get look at future careers at AHS

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The and the Agawam Public Schools teamed up this week to provide even more opportunities for students to be exposed to career fields.

On Tuesday morning, Agawam High School and the West of the River Chamber of Commerce gave 11th graders the opportunity to explore various career fields at a Career Day event held in the morning.

Career Center Coordinator Lisa Sheehan said the event is in its second year at the high school level. Students at the junior high school have had a Career Day event for several years.

"We decided we wanted to target the junior class because they are looking at different colleges and they need to know what is required of them in order to pursue a certain career," said Sheehan.

Students filled out surveys and were matched up with career fields that most closely met their interests. Two sessions were held. Within each session, a student would hear from two or three speakers who perform jobs in a similar field.

For example, Sheehan paired Peggy Hoime, a social worker, and Cristina DiNardo, a family-life coach. Other pairings included different careers in the banking, electrical, engineering and medical fields. The pairing of the speakers allowed students to be exposed to even more jobs, Sheehan said.

Sheehan is affiliated with the Chamber's education committee, along with Patricia Parker-Flores.

Parker-Flores said a lot of work went into networking and finding professionals in various fields to speak at the event. The event takes months of planning.

"We do meet monthly and work on these career events," said Parker-Flores. "We try to provide as many resources as we can for students so they can learn more about careers."

"The education committee is very committed and passionate about exposing students to careers. They spend a lot of money on college and they should be able to get an idea of where they want to go and why. They also get told that they need college. These speakers teach them why."

There were speakers covering 21 "career areas," Sheehan said, and more than 30 speakers participated.

The Chamber helps facilitate the junior high school Career Day, as well as Career Day events at West Springfield High School and the Lower Pioneer Valley Education Collaborative, the vocational school serving Agawam.

Mayor Richard Cohen, Superintendent William Sapelli and Principal Steve Lemanski all spoke to the students at Career Day, emphasizing the need to further education in order to achieve their career path.

The Agawam Police and Fire departments were also represented.

Deputy Fire Chief B.J. Calvi exposed several students to the service field, going over the education and training required to be a firefighter and EMT. He emphasized hard work and continuing to learn.

"You always want to be at the top of your training and you can keep moving up the ranks," said Calvi.

Another profession highlighted was sports management. Luke Pawlak, who works with the Springfield Falcons AHL hockey team, talked about his role in helping provide a family-friendly experience.



Cristina DiNardo, left, and Peggy Hoime, right, talk with juniors about social work jobs during Agawam High School Career Day on June 9. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Agawam Fire Deputy Chief B.J. Calvi speaks to Agawam High School juniors about careers as a firefighter and EMT.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, June 15: Baked mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, June 16: Cheeseburger on a bun, lettuce and tomato, baked fries, ice cream sandwich, assorted chilled fruit.

Wednesday, June 17: Manager's choice.

Thursday, June 18: Seasoned diced chicken over egg noodles, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, June 19: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, June 15: Baked mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, June 16: Cheeseburger on a bun, lettuce and tomato, baked fries, ice cream sandwich, assorted chilled fruit.

Wednesday, June 17: Manager's choice.

Thursday, June 18: Seasoned diced chicken over egg noodles, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, June 19: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, June 15: Baked mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, June 16: Cheeseburger on a bun, lettuce and tomato, baked fries, ice cream sandwich, assorted chilled fruit.

Wednesday, June 17: All-beef hotdog, whole-wheat bun, low-fat potato chips, vegetarian beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, June 18: Seasoned diced chicken over egg noodles, mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, June 19: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, June 15: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.

Tuesday, June 16: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Nutri-Grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.

Wednesday, June 17: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.

Thursday, June 18: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.

Friday, June 19: Pillsbury mini chocolate-chip pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, chilled 1 percent low-fat milk, chilled juice.

HCC STEM scholarship deadline June 30

HOLYOKE — Students enrolled full-time in chemistry, engineering, mathematics, physics or another STEM discipline at Holyoke Community College may qualify for a National Science Foundation scholarship that can provide up to \$5,200 per year.

In March, the National Science Foundation awarded Holyoke Community College a five-year, \$625,540 grant that will allow the college to award about 20 scholarships each year to students studying in one of the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math).

The HCC STEM Scholars Program will allocate approximately \$100,000 annually for 20 scholarships.

The first HCC STEM scholarships are being awarded for the fall 2015 semester

and applications are now being accepted. The deadline to apply is June 30.

Eligibility guidelines can be viewed at www.hcc.edu/nsfSTEM where there is also a link to the online application.

Applicants must be enrolled full time in a STEM program, demonstrate academic ability or potential, and demonstrate financial need, according to the guidelines. STEM disciplines include biological sciences, physical sciences, math, computer and information services, geosciences, and engineering.

The project is being led by HCC professor Ileana Vasu, chair of the engineering department, who can be reached at ivasu@hcc.edu or 413-552-2438.

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

Brain Development and Teenage Risk Taking:

What Every Parent Must Know ("Under Construction"): Greenfield Physician Dr. Ruth Potee, chair of the Healthcare Solutions Committee of the Franklin County-North Quabbin Opioid Task Force will speak at a community form on Tuesday, June 16, at 7 p.m. in the West Springfield High School auditorium. This free workshop is open to the public. Attendees will gain insight on how the teen brain develops and functions and its impact on teenage risk taking, including alcohol and substance abuse.

Summer Legal Institute: This is a free five-day legal immersion program located at Western New England University School of Law from July 6-10. Students who participate will study the legal system and how it works alongside attorney and judge volunteers, analyze selected cases, debate legal issues and participate in both a mock trial and an oral argument, learn what it takes to become a lawyer and observe the action at law firms and courthouses, develop contacts with legal professionals and organizations and gain insight into the college admissions process. Enrollment is limited to 50 students. Students must apply online at http://jtbf.org/index.php?submenu=SpringfieldMA&src=gendocs&ref=MassachusettsMassMutualSLI&category=Summer_Legal_Institute.

College Fair: Western New England University is hosting the New England Association for College Admission Counseling College Fair on Sunday, Sept. 20, from 2 to 4 p.m. This event will be held in the Alumni Healthful Living Center. It will be preceded by an Admissions and Financial Aid Information Session from 1 to 1:45 p.m.

SAT Summer Institute at Westfield State University: WSU is running this SAT preparatory program from Monday to Thursday, Aug. 3-6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Students will also have access to online review sessions and open office hours throughout September, preparing them for the fall SAT exams. The SAT Summer Institute covers all math and verbal skills needed for success on the SAT exam. Class sessions use real test questions to show just how these skills are tested on the SAT exam. The course will cover quantitative topics and verbal topics, as well as general test-taking matters. The cost is \$499 and includes all required books and materials. An early registration discounted price of \$449 is also available to those registering before June 17. Space is limited. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.westfield.ma.edu/academics/exam-prep/sat-test-prep-course>.

Scholarships: See your counselor or visit the websites below for more information or an application.

CAMPUS NOTES

Clarkson University: James R. Watkins, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list. Raffaele T. Manzi, of Agawam, and Shayne C. Castonguay, of Feeding Hills, will attend Clarkson University as members of the Class of 2019.

Coastal Carolina University: Elizabeth Caracciolo, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

Nichols College: Kevin Wheeler, of Agawam, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

Rochester Institute of Technology:

Samantha Abraham, of Agawam, was inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society, which honors students who represent the guiding principles of ASL: Activities, Scholarship and Leadership.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute:

Bradford Fleming, of Agawam, was awarded a master of business administration degree at ceremonies held recently.

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Summer programs announced at the Agawam Public Library

The Agawam Public Library has announced the following summer programs. All programs are free. Registration is required for all programs, unless indicated. Register at www.agawamlibrary.org, at 413-789-1550, ext. 3, or in person at 750 Cooper St. Registration is now open for all programs.

Sign up for the Summer Reading Program and pick up a reading log at the Children's Desk. Children entering kindergarten through grade 4 in Agawam Public Schools are entered in the Elementary Reading Challenge when they register for the "Every Hero Has a Story" summer reading program.

All summer long, there will be a collection for the the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center. Donations of canned dog or cat food and paper towels may be dropped off at the Children's Desk.

Tuesday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m.: Bingo for Books for children entering grades K-4. Everyone wins books. This program is presented by the GFCW Agawam Junior Women's Club.

Thursday, June 25, at 6 p.m.: Mike Bent's Super U Hero Training Academy – Summer Reading Kickoff for ages 3 and older. This silly, super hero-themed, character-building show teaches kids what it takes to be a real superhero: respect for others, responsibility, honesty and perseverance. Children become certified agents of R.E.A.D. This program is presented by the Agawam Cultural Council.

Tuesday, July 7, at 6:30 p.m.: Glow Games for students entering grades 4, 5 and 6. Interactive games like Frisbee, bowling, twister and more in a dark room with "glow" for light. This program is presented

by the Agawam YMCA Program & Wellness Family Center.

Wednesdays, July 8 and 22, at 2 p.m.: Super Crafternoon for ages 3-8. Use superpowers to create something fabulous. Assistance available from teen volunteers. Registration not required.

Thursday, July 9, at 2:30 p.m.: Farmer Minor and Daisy the Pig, for ages 3 and older. Farmer Minor talks about Daisy and her pampered life, and reads from Daisy's favorite books. At the end of the program, everyone can meet and pet Daisy. Who will kiss the pig? A great photo opportunity.

Tuesday, July 14, at 6:30: A Celebration of American Music Heroes family program for all ages. Percussionist and educator Craig Harris leads this fun-filled experience, which pays tribute to the pioneers of American music including Armstrong, Gershwin, Guthrie, Seeger, Dylan and Charles. This program is presented by the Agawam Cultural Council.

Wednesdays, July 15 and 29, at 3 p.m.: Superhero Bingo for students entering grades K-3.

Thursday, July 16, at 3 p.m.: Super Crafts for students entering grades 4, 5 and 6. Creating Pipe Cleaner Ninjas from pipe cleaners, straws and beads.

Tuesday, July 21, at 3 p.m.: Superhero Training Academy for students entering grades K-2. Learn to leap tall buildings in a single bound. Crafts, playing games and creating super snacks.

Thursday, July 23, at 6:30: Mystery Art with Thousand Cranes Art Studio for ages 3-5. Stan and Sheila host a nature-themed Mystery Draw. Participants create a full-color work of art, which will be matted and

ready to hang. Parents are welcome to participate.

Wednesday, July 29, at 10 a.m.: The Great Worm Adventure for students entering grades 4, 5 and 6. View a live worm bin, observe worms using a magnifier and draw their anatomy. Review how to care for these creatures and discover the many ways they help humans and other animals.

Thursday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m.: Mystery Art with Thousand Cranes for students entering grades 1-3. Stan and Sheila host a unique Mystery Draw, focusing on nature. Participants' work will be in full color, matted, and ready to add to the home art gallery.

Monday, Aug. 3, at 3 p.m.: Animal Show on the Go for ages 5 and older. Meet Cindy King, hero to rescued animals. Learn about her work with ASOTG animals and learn how to be a hero to the environment.

Wednesday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m.: Toto the Tornado Kitten for ages 3 and older. Listen to Toto's story, then meet the famous cat and his minder, Jonathan. Books will be available for purchase, with 100 percent of proceeds donated to animal rescue groups, including T.J. O'Connor. Donations of canned dog or cat food would be appreciated.

Thursday, Aug. 6, at 10 a.m.: How to Draw a Super Hero, for students entering grades 4, 5 and 6. Cartoonist Paul Merklein demonstrates and teaches how to draw superheroes.

Thursday, Aug. 13, at 3 p.m.: Super Crafts for students entering grades 4, 5 and 6. Create a Melted Bead Bowl from colorful beads.

Friday, Aug. 14, at 3 p.m.: Summer Reading Finale with Judy Pancoast for ages

3 and older. Judy Pancoast hosts the fun, interactive musical finale of "Every Hero Has a Story." From superheroes to young heroes, heroes in the community to animal heroes. Summer reading prizewinners announced following the program.

Storytimes

• Super Family Storytime — Mondays 9:30-10:30 a.m. for ages 3-6. July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 3. Stories, music, and a simple craft followed by 30 minutes of playtime.

• Mother Goose's Super Summer — Mondays 10:30-11:30 a.m. for ages 0-3. July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. A fun program filled with rhymes, music and more, followed by 30 minutes of play time.

• Local Hero Family Storytime — Tuesdays 10-10:45 a.m. for ages 3-6. Meet a local hero, hear stories, ask questions. Craft/activities vary each week. June 30: Storytime and Wiggly Worms with Helga the Hen; July 7: Karen Langevin, Agawam Police Department; July 14: Laura Lukas, kindergarten teacher, Robinson Park School; July 21: Firefighter Pam Murphy, Agawam Fire Department; July 28: Farmer Jody Seldomridge, Granny's Place, 844 Main St., Agawam; Aug. 4: Military Family Heroes, presented by Family Program Office, Massachusetts Army National Guard; Aug. 11: Master Sgt. Christopher Cekovsky, Air National Guard.

Movie matinees

Films are shown Fridays at 3 p.m. in July. July 10: "Planes – Fire & Rescue"; July 17: "The Incredibles"; July 24: "The Lego Movie"; July 31: "Alexander & the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day."

CAREER ■ from page 1

Machos, who works the night shift, began his June 4 presentation in the classroom, where he explained that his role as a police officer is to help people. He then showed students some of the tools that he carries with him while on duty: two-way radio, flashlight, two sets of handcuffs, pepper spray, gloves, and a gun.

Another important piece of equipment Machos showed students was two bulletproof vests, one of which is designed to look similar to his uniform. He explained that the vests, which are custom-fitted for each officer, are "heavy and hot" when worn. Students experienced this firsthand when Machos let every student wear one of the vests.

"I liked how heavy it felt," said Darwood. "But I didn't know it was bulletproof."

Look at police cruiser

When Machos finished the vest demonstration, he took students outside to show them one of the department's police vehicles. Machos told students the department has replaced all but one of its fleet of Ford Crown Victoria police cruisers with police versions of the Ford Explorer utility vehicle, explaining that the new police cars are all-wheel drive and better-suited for winter-weather driving.

Machos added that the Explorer he brought, which is used by the traffic division, has no light bar on the roof and has "ghost" lettering on the sides.

"The lettering is nearly invisible during the daytime, but at night it becomes highly reflective — it's especially visible when lit by the lights of headlights of other vehicles," he said.

Students also learned that the department's two newest police Explorers look much different on the outside than the one Machos drove to the school. Machos told students that the doors on the new police Explorers are painted white with big black lettering to immediately identify them as police vehicles, even in the daytime. The cars also have a light bar mounted on the roof.

Machos then turned on the his car's flashing lights, opened the rear cargo area and brought out some of the items officers carry in the car: flares, fire extinguisher, yellow police tape and a measuring device used at accident scenes.

View from the front seat

But the highlight of Machos' presentation for students came when each one had the chance to sit in the front seats of the police car. Machos demonstrated some of



Agawam Police Officer Brian Machos looks on as Robinson Park first grader Elias Santa tries on a bulletproof vest that Machos brought when he spoke to Santa's class during the school's Career Week.

the technical equipment used by officers, including a computer installed between the seats. For students, though, the best part was getting to operate the siren and talk into the microphone connected to the car's outside speaker.

"It was exciting to push buttons and talk on the microphone," said Kennedy Lindsey, 7. "It was cool to see the lights glow, too. I wish I could have seen them glow at night."

Elias Santa, 7, said he was surprised to learn about all the equipment in the car: "I liked it when he showed us the flares and the fire extinguisher."

Darwood was also impressed by what he saw and heard. "I've only seen some of this stuff on TV and in the movies," Darwood said. "It was much more exciting here. I also learned that the sound of the siren comes from the front of the police car behind the grille."

Students invited guests

Career Week was started at the school 13 years ago when Cynthia Palazzi became



Agawam Police Officer Brian Machos poses with his daughter Samantha, center, and four of her first grade classmates at Robinson Park School: from left, Kennedy Lindsey, Calli Pilon, Kylie Warner and Katherine Baranov.



A class of Robinson Park School first graders listens and watches as Agawam Police Officer Brian Machos shows off some of the equipment carried in the town's police cars. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

principal. She said students are asked to invite a guest to talk about the work they do.

"We've had mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and older siblings make presentations," she said.

In addition to Machos, presenters this year have included a dentist, a nurse, a pharmacist, and an EMT. "Our week gives students a chance to show off one of their

family members and it gives family members a chance to interact with students."

Samantha Machos said she felt like "a star" having her father speak to her class.

"I was so excited all day waiting for him to come to my class," she said. "I really like it when he talks about safety and all the stuff he does to help people."

Obituaries & Church News

DEATH NOTICES

Benard, Gerald L.
Died June 3, 2015
Memorial service June 2, 2015
Leete-Stevens Funeral Home

Roberts, Sandra A.
Died June 4, 2015
Private services
Agawam Funeral Home

Ruane, Thomas J.
Died June 3, 2015
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home
Agawam

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Rosary to be prayed for U.S. leaders July 1

The Spiritual Life Committee of Sacred Heart Church and the Agawam Knights of Columbus are hosting a Patriotic Rosary to be prayed at the Sacred Heart Church, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. The event will take place Wednesday, July 1, at 7 p.m. in preparation for the nation's birthday on the Fourth of July. A reception will follow in the parish center.

A Patriotic Rosary is a rosary that is prayed specifically for the nation's capital, the president, Congress, and all the leaders of the United States, as well as each of the 50 Hail Marys prayed for each state by name.

Vin Govoni will lead participants in singing the patriotic songs, which will be sung after each decade. Praying the Patriotic Rosary invokes God's grace, protection, and blessings upon each state and all the people that dwell within it. The public is invited.

For more information, call Jean Raczkowski at 413-786-8200, ext 3.

St. David's invites families to 'Hometown Nazareth'

A summer family event called Hometown Nazareth will be hosted at St. David's Episcopal Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, July 13 to 17 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Families step back in time at Hometown Nazareth, exploring what it was like to live in the town where Jesus grew up. Kids and adults participate in a memorable Bible-times marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into Bible-times snacks, visit Jesus' mom, Mary, and collect Bible Memory Makers to remind them of God's Word.

In addition, everyone learns to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Call 413-786-6133 for more information.

Please recycle this newspaper

Register by June 15 for kids Bible camp

The Catholic community of Agawam will host a Catholic weeklong summer Bible camp Monday through Friday, July 13 to 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Morning and afternoon snacks and lunch are provided.

The program will include daily scripture themes, crafts, outdoor games, activities, music, food and fun. For children in grades 1 through 6, youth volunteers in grades 7 through 11 are welcome to assist in the program. The cost for each child is \$50 and for three

or more, \$125.

Medical forms, registration and fees need to be completed by Monday, June 15. For more information or to register, call the secretary and religious education coordinator at Sacred Heart Parish, Lisa Raffia, at 413-786-8200. Registration forms are available online at www.sacredheartfeedinghills.org. All are welcome to attend, regardless of parish affiliation. It will be held only if there are the necessary numbers of children attending.

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE AUCTION SALE

Unclaimed bicycles and miscellaneous items – the Agawam Police Department being the holder of unclaimed bicycles and miscellaneous items of every description and nature will sell at public auction, **Saturday, June 27th at 10:00 a.m.** at 681 Springfield Street, Agawam, Massachusetts to the highest bidder, single units. Terms cash in accordance with MA General Laws Chapter No. 135, Sections 7 & 8.

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AUCTIONEERS
MA LICENSE #161
6/4,6/11,6/18/15

AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 6:30 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Calabrese for a Definitive Plan for Samuel Street property.

By Order of **Mark R. Paleologopoulos**, Chairman
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD
6/4,6/11/15

AUCTION SOUTH AGAWAM STORAGE

1670 Main St
786-1646 6/18, 2:30
#4 B'Shara #6 Langlois
6/4,6/11/15

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD15P0984PO

In the matter of: Losito Family Trust TRUST CITATION
To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: **Charles J Losito** of Vista

CA requesting that **Joanne Losito** of Agawam, MA and **David Losito** of Pacific Palisades, CA be removed as trustees of the Losito Family Trust and that **James W. Gelinas**, of Chicopee, MA be appointed as successor trustee, all as more fully set forth in said Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 06/25/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. **Anne M. Geoffrion** Esquire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 02, 2015

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
6/11/15

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD15P1006PM

In the matter of: Nicolas M Pietroniro Of: Agawam, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor)

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Heritage Hall West** of Agawam, MA in the above

captioned matter alleging that **Nicolas M Pietroniro** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan J Davey** of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 06/29/15. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 01, 2015

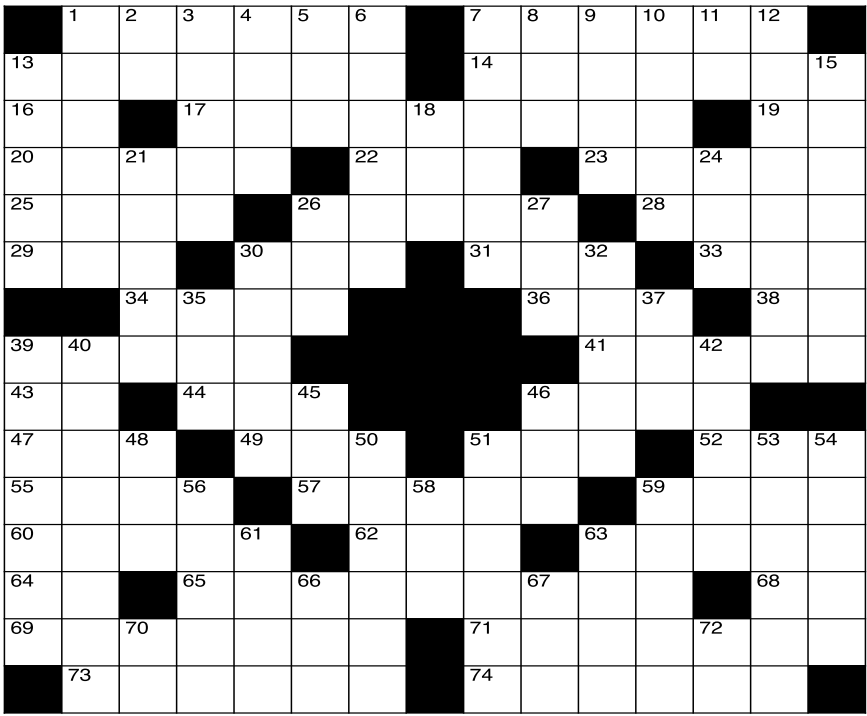
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
6/11/15

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.



CLUES ACROSS

1. S.W. gully
7. Japanese polytheism
13. N.H. Academy and town
14. Most aired
16. Prosecuting officer
17. Badger State
19. Atomic #24
20. Moose genus
22. Possessed
23. Make a smooth transition
25. Thug (slang)
26. Locations or places
28. Rivulet
29. The self
30. Not good
31. Obstruct
33. Decalitre
34. Space for sitting
36. Taxi
38. 7th tone
39. Ethiopian lake
41. Tears down
43. Gold

CLUES DOWN

1. Something comparable
2. Rural delivery
44. Angle (abbr.)
46. Semitic fertility god
47. Beak
49. Digital audiotape
51. Small child
52. 4th caliph of Islam
55. 4840 square yards
57. Devious trick (Yiddish)
59. Overgarments
60. Large creature
62. Ingest
63. Nuisances
64. -, denotes past
65. Wine waiter
68. I, Portuguese
69. Compunction
71. Overshadow
73. Emphasize
74. An unsuccessful ending

3. "Laugh-In" co-host Dan
4. Sheep genus
5. Affirmative
6. Vanilla's flower family
7. In a way, made smoother
8. Belong to he
9. Greek rainbow goddess
10. S.F. football team player
11. Atomic #52
12. Kiss
13. Proverb
15. Lattice support
18. Cereal grass
21. Rome, GA river
24. Disease of cattle
26. Seated
27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
30. Blatted
32. Murdered in his bathtub
35. Finish

37. Sheep sound
39. Scarlett songbird
40. Kills oneself
42. Broad, flat pieces of stone
45. Auto fuel
46. Derek __, X Harvard Pres.
48. Woman's undergarment
50. Topics of discourse
51. Belonging to the peerage
53. Most recent
54. Point of debate
56. Ostend artist James Sydney
58. Phonograph inventor's initials
59. Eagle's nest
61. Ripped a fabric
63. Lucre
66. Manuscripts (abbr.)
67. Frozen water
70. 41st state
72. Keystone state

Answers on page 6

Buzzin' *from* Town to Town



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Moving Sale

HUGE MULTI FAMILY sale 4 Matthews Road, Southwick June 20-21, 8am-6pm. Lots of amazing finds! Everything you can imagine.

Tag Sale

6 OLD COACH Road, Wilbraham Furniture, household & recreation items, Sat. 6/13 8am-2pm, Raindate Sunday 6/14.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD Church Ministries clearance/tag sale. Cleaning out closets & storage including arts & crafts supplies, furniture, audio/ video equipment, lots of misc. items. June 12-13, Fri. 9-3, Sat. 9-1. 580 Main Street, Agawam.

DANA WOODS, BELCHERTOWN: 100+ families. Children's clothes, toys, furniture, housewares, tools and more! George Hannum Rd., off Rt.9 (turn at Stop & Shop). 6/13 & 6/14; 9:00-3:00

Tag Sale

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY, JUNE 13. Furniture, large entertainment center, 72" curio cabinet, a few antiques, vintage copper beverage tub, ruby glass, crocks, tools, household items, CDs, miscellaneous décor items, etc.

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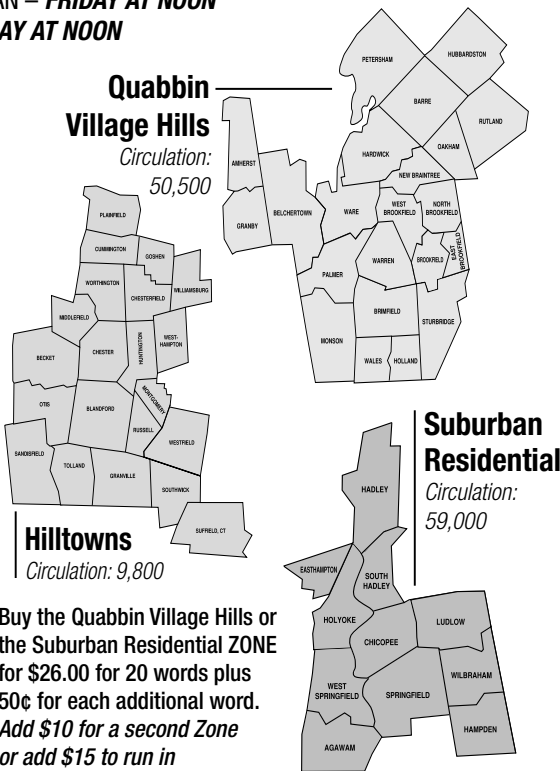
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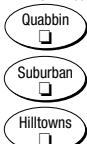
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THE TOWN OF Ludlow is seeking applicants for the position of Building Maintenance Supervisor at the Ludlow Community Center/Randall's Boys & Girls Club. The Building Maintenance Supervisor is responsible for overseeing the safe operation of building maintenance, repairs to the building & grounds, all general building maintenance tasks, managing the Automatic Logic System to oversee heating, ventilation & HVAC, performs light carpentry & minor plumbing repairs, monitors compliance w/ building & safety code regulations. Qualifications include a High School Diploma or equivalent; a basic understanding of trades related to building maintenance and repair; familiar w/ basic computer applications and effective communication skills. Previous exp. w/ pool maintenance preferred. Working hours: Mon-Fri, 4am – 12pm, hourly range \$13.87-\$16.82 w/ excellent benefits. Applications are available at www.ludlow.ma.us under Human Resources. Candidates must send a completed application and resumé to cribeiro@ludlow.ma.us or mail to HR, 488 Chapin St, Ludlow 01056. Closing date is Friday, June 19, 2015 at noon. The Town of Ludlow is an AA/EOE

Real Estate



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HARDWICK: Beautifully maintained home on corner lot. 4 BR, 2 BA, lg. closets in bedrooms, Entire home renovated 10 years ago, central vac, 2 person Jacuzzi tub w/separate shower. \$198,000

OAKHAM: 3 BR, 1 BA ranch situated on 2 parcels for a total of 5.9 acres. Separated by the 5 Mile River, hardwoods, eat-in kitchen, heated sun room, new septic 2013. \$299,000

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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FOR RENT



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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Sunday, June 14

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St. and will include business matters, special events, a small auction and refreshments. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

EXPERIENCE MUSIC AT UNITED will present Amanda Mole, organist, in recital at 3 p.m. She will utilize the Skinner organs in both the chapel and main sanctuary of United Congregational Church of Holyoke, 300 Appleton St. Suggested donation \$10; \$5, seniors and students). For more information, call 413-532-1483 or visit www.uccholyoke.org.

Monday, June 15

"BUDGETING AND SAVING MONEY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS" will be offered free to the public at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 1 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome or registration is available by calling Raymond Rose at 413-530-2186 or emailing RaymondRose@aol.com.

Wednesday, June 17

THE TOBACCO VALLEY ARTISTS ASSOCIATION will hold its annual meeting and elections at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Following the business meeting, TVAA will welcome the internationally recognized artist, Sean Farrell, who will critique artwork created by TVAA members. The public is invited.

Thursday, June 18

FORMER "THE VOICE" CONTESTANT NOAH LIS will perform at Heritage Woods Senior Living from 6 to 8 p.m. at 462 Main St., Agawam. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Attendees are asked to bring a lawn chair or blanket. For more information, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT will host

the Cicci Santucci Jazz Quintet as part of its free summer concert series, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Storowton Village Green, 1305 Memorial Ave. Call 413-781-3020 after 3:30 p.m. for an update on time and venue and to find out if there is a weather related cancellation of programs.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "American Impressionism: From the Hudson River School to Art Colonies," featuring Robin Hoffman and Jodi Stiffelman, co-founders of ArtScapades, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Saturday, June 20

ROBINSON STATE PARK DAY. Family appropriate activities: 8 a.m., Bird identification walk; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., hikes and art activities (10 - noon) for children, longer hikes for adults; and the "Tree Bus," a van full of educational hands-on activities about trees. \$8 entry fee per car with Mass. registration.

"REMEMBERING THE WAR TO END ALL WARS" at the 12:30 p.m. at the Springfield Armory, 1 Armory Square as part of Armory Day. A reading of letters from the trenches, including one of the Christmas Truce, when German and English soldiers laid down their guns to celebrate the holiday together. For more information, visit www.SmallPlanetDancers.com or call 413 746-9067.

Sunday, June 21

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL to host the Thomas Bergeron Trio at 40 Searle Road, Huntington. Admission \$10 at the door; students free. Open seating. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Monday, June 22

THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold READLocal, the kick-off event to the Adult Summer Reading Program, at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will meet and greet 11 local authors, enjoy refreshments provided by Partner's Catering, and sign up for upcoming summer events. No registration necessary.

Thursday, June 25

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "The American Renaissance: Artists and Collectors in the Victorian Era," featuring Guy McLain, director, Wood Museum of Springfield History, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800,

ext. 488.

Sunday, June 28

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM, 35 Elm St., will be open 1 to 4 p.m. The museum will once again feature the exhibit, "Riverside Park - A Century as the Playground of the Connecticut Valley." For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com.

Thursday, July 2

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield will host "An Enchanted Evening with Bella Voce," featuring Teri LaFleur and Lisa Woods accompanied by Jerry Noble and David Maker, as part of its "A Little Night Music" concert series. It is free and open to the public; food donations will be accepted. For more information, visit www.trinityspringfield.org.

Friday, July 10

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL OPEN MIC MUSIC JAM at 7 p.m. Free admission. Performers determine format. Public welcome. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Sunday, July 12

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL presents Jose Gonzalex & Sons Criollo Clasico: Classical, folk and contemporary Latin music. Admission \$10 at the door; students free. Open seating. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Wednesday, July 15

RICK SPENCER WILL PRESENT a living history lecture, "To End All Wars: Songs for the 1st World War," at 6:30 p.m. at the Noble & Cooley Center for Historical Preservation, 42 Water St., Granville at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 413-357-6321.

Sunday, July 26

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL presents Charles Neville & Sons, legendary jazz saxophonist. Admission \$10 at the door; students free. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Friday, Aug. 7

EAST COAST GEM, MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW, Eastern States Exposition, Better Living Center, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$6; children under 12, free with an adult. Parking \$5. For information, visit www.mzexpos.com/eastcoast.htm

Saturday, Aug. 15

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL PUPPET SHOW for the whole family, 40 Searle Road, Huntington. Free for kids and adults. Open seating. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Saturday, Aug. 15

TOM KNIGHT PUPPET SHOW at North Hall, 40 Searle Road, Huntington at 11 a.m. Original songs and skits with handmade puppets, for families and young children. Reception. Art Gallery open. Free for kids and adults. Open seating. Wheelchair access, air-conditioned.

ONGOING

THE WESTFIELD FARMERS MARKET is held every Thursday afternoon from 12:30 - 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., until Oct. 8. Free parking available. SNAP EBT cards accepted. Locally grown flowers, plants, vegetables, honey and bee products, maple syrup, goat meat and goats' milk products, relishes and jams, baked goods, forested pork, free range chicken and eggs, wine, hot cider donuts, and more.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 413-786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

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Announce Your Recent Engagement or Wedding

IN THE FALL 2015 ISSUE OF THE

Send your photo and wedding date to:

BRIDAL GUIDE, Attention: Beth Baker, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or e-mail bbaker@turley.com and be sure to put Bridal Photo in subject line.

If you would like your photos returned please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Photo must be received by August 15, 2015.

Jennifer Poulin & Bruce Bacon

Palmer, MA
Wedding Date: Sept. 20, 2014

Please include this information with photo:

Name of Bride:

Bride's Residence:

Name of Groom:

Groom's Residence:

Date of Wedding:

Kayla Saraiva & Brendan Zdanis

Ludlow, MA/South Windsor, CT
Date of Wedding: May 21, 2016

GRADUATION 2015



Diploma in hand, Christopher LaZazzera poses for a photo with his uncle, Michael LaZazzera. Taking the photo is his mother, Annmarie LaZazzera.



Best friends Jasmine Robinson, left, and Alissa Serra share an embrace before graduation ceremonies.



Class pin



Kristina Lemire takes a photo of classmates Lindsey Wassung, left, and Alyssa Guerette.



Two members of the Class of 2015 who passed away several years ago were remembered at graduation with empty chairs on the stage.

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PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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